FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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2 September Middle East and South Asia Review

LD021304 [Editorial Report]

Gulf Conflict

Shipping Attacks — Iraqi military statements broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio announced that Iraqi planes hit a large maritime target off the Iranian coast 2 September after raiding four maritime targets the previous day. Citing a Lloyds report, INA noted that a Cypriot tanker loaded with Iranian crude oil was damaged by an Iraqi missile during the 1 September Iraqi attacks.

Iran responded to the Iraqi raids by using speedboats to attack four ships in the Gulf. Madrid radio announced that a Spanish tanker was hit 1 September, while Radio Monte Carlo disclosed that Japanese, Cypriot, and Greek ships were fired on by Iranian boats the following morning.

Land War — Iranian artillery shelled Basra 1 and 2 September, killing 11 people and wounding 83, according to Iraqi statements cited by Voice of the Masses and INA. The Iraqi reports reiterated Iraq's warning that it could retaliate by ordering over 100 planes to strike at Iranian cities several times a day. For Iran's part, IRNA stressed that the shelling of the Basra area was in retaliation for Iraqi air raids on Iranian industrial centers 1 September. A communique cited by the agency said the Iraqi raids on industrial units in Esfahan and Khuzestan Provinces had caused civilian casualties, adding that two Iraqi warplanes were shot down by surface-to-air missiles in Bushehr and Ahvaz regions. However, an Iraqi spokesman cited by INA denied that any Iraqi plane was downed in the 1 September air raids.

Iranian Comment — Iraq could not have resumed its "hooliganism" if the United States were not inclined toward the resumption of Iraqi attacks in the Gulf, a Tehran radio commentary maintained. The radio viewed the new round of Iraqi raids as "a joint measure carried out in total coordination between Baghdad and Washington." An Iranian military statement cited by the radio berated the United States for failing to hand over to Iran an Iraqi pilot rescued by the U.S. Navy after his plane was shot down in the Gulf by Iranian air defenses. The pilot should have been handed over to Iran as a POW, the radio contended.

Diplomacy — Saudi King Fahd received visiting Iraqi official 'Izzat Ibrahim, who conveyed a message on bilateral relations and the current situation from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, SPA noted in a report from Jeddah. A Kuwaiti envoy subsequently arrived in Jeddah to give Fahd a message from the Kuwaiti amir, KUNA noted.

Libya

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi declared his regret that "hundreds" of Chadians are killed daily by Libyan air strikes, but he stressed that Libya was "compelled" to act in "self-defense." The Libyan leader's remarks came in a speech delivered on the occasion of the 1 September Revolution and carried by Tripoli television. If the Chadians promise not to approach Libyan borders and "imperialist forces" withdraw, Libya will not enter Chad, he pledged. Libya, which has "no colonialist ambitions" toward Chad, is also willing to "contribute" to Chadian reconciliation.

Al-Qadhdhafi also charged that the United States heads an "international conspiracy" against the Arabs, and he urged the Arab masses to "mobilize" against this "tyrant Satan." U.S. interests in the "Arab homeland" should be destroyed, he said. Furthermore, Al-Qadhdhafi warned that if "any aggression" is launched against Libya, it will "totally destroy" the Mediterranean. Libya will plant mines so no ship can navigate safely, he vowed.

On the subject of Arab unity, the Libyan leader read a document outlining his plan for an "Arab Union," which would provide a "political framework" for pooling economic and defense resources in the interests of achieving Arab unity in all areas and sectors. Stressing the special importance of defense and security issues, Al-Qadhdhafi also encouraged the Arab people to "work night and day to possess" nuclear weapons to "defend their existence" against Israel.

In the area of domestic affairs, Al-Qadhdhafi again stressed the importance of economic self-reliance and called for the creation of a "neosocialism" whereby light and medium industry as well as other service, economic, and productive activities will be cooperatively owned and operated. Management by the government and by "exploitative private" persons or entities must be discontinued "as of today," he insisted.

Syria-Jordan

President Hafiz al-Asad and King Husayn discussed bilateral issues and the Arab and regional situation during two rounds of talks in Damascus 1 September, Damascus radio reported. Amman television said the talks were part of the ongoing coordination and consultation between the two leaders.

Lebanon

Beirut "security sources" cited by KUNA predicted that Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite will be released in less than 10 days in view of "strong pressure" exerted on the kidnappers. The agency speculated that Syria is the party mediating Waite's release following its success in freeing U.S. journalist Charles Glass. However, the "Organization of Right Against Falsehood" subsequently issued a statement reaffirming its demand for the payment of 10 million dollars and for the release of "mujahidin" held in Kuwaiti and Israeli jails in exchange for Waite's release, Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon reported.

Egypt

Security police have arrested eight new suspects in connection with recent political assassination attempts in the Cairo area, according to an *Al-Ahram* report cited by MENA. Police are hunting 11 other accomplices whose names were mentioned by the suspects during interrogation.

Death Sentence for 12 Charged With Spying for CIA
NC011959 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1945 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] The Fatah Movement Revolutionary Council declared today that it has apprehended 12 Palestinians on charges of spying for Jordan and the CIA. In a statement it released, the Revolutionary Council said that a special court has passed a death sentence on these detainees. The statement added that the verdict has been referred to the Central Committee for approval.

Communiques Report Anti-Israeli Operations
JN010704 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic
1818 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Communiques issued by the spokesman for the Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command; date, place not given]

[Text] The military spokesman for the Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command has stated the following: In implementation of instructions, our heroic revolutionaries operating inside the occupied homeland launched an incendiary bomb attack against a Zionist military bus last night as it passed along the main road south of Janin in the occupied West Bank. The bus was burned and its occupants sustained various injuries. A large force of the enemy army rushed to the scene of the operation, cordoned off the area, and arrested scores of Palestinian citizens on the pretext they were involved in the operation. Our heroic revolutionaries returned safely to base. Revolution until victory!

The Palestinian military spokesman has also stated the following: In implementation of orders, one of our groups of fighters operating inside the occupied homeland launched an incendiary bomb and hand grenade attack against a Zionist military patrol yesterday as it passed in the center of Ramallah in the occuied West Bank. One jeep was burned and a number of Zionist soldiers were either killed or wounded. Immediately afterwards, the Zionist enemy forces cordoned off the area, closed all entry points, carried out an intensive search, and arrested a large number of Palestinian citizens on the pretext they were involved in the operation. Our group of fighters returned safely to base. Revolution until victory!

Saudi Defense Minister Issues Statement on Visit
LD312200 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2040 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] Algiers, 31 Aug (SPA) — Following the official visit to Algeria by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, a press statement was issued. The text is as follows:

To bolster the fraternal ties between the two fraternal countries of the Algerian Democratic Republic and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabi, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, visited Algeria at the invitation of His Excellency Chadli Benjedid, president of the Algerian Republic and FLN secretary general. The visit proceeded from the common desire to continue consultation, coordination, and cooperation between both countries and out of belief in the necessity of concentrating the good efforts aimed at laying the foundation of Arab solidarity. The official visit was paid from 25-31 August 1987 corresponding to 1-7 Muharram 1408.

This visit enabled his royal highness to meet with His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid anew and hold talks with him. They reaffirmed their will to bolster and consolidate the bilateral relations between the two fraternal countries. They also reaffirmed the two countries' determination to continue efforts to purify the Arab atmosphere to establish effective Arab solidarity.

The talks included some East and West Arab and Islamic issues and some subjects concerning the African Continent, including Arab-African cooperation.

His highness had talks with Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and official in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the FLN Central Committee, and Abdelhamid Brahimi, alternate member of the Political Bureau and prime minister. He held a working session with Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, Political Bureau member and foreign minister. These talks took place in a fraternal atmosphere governed by trust and complete understanding of all issues of mutual interest in the Arab and international fields with a commitment to continue to strengthen and consolidate bilateral relations between the two fraternal countres. The two sides are committed to continuing the implementation of their policy aimed at clarifying the Arab atmosphere and continuing the effort of President Chadli Bendjedid and King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the custodian of the two holy mosques, in this field to serve the interests of Arab and Islamic nations.

Departs Algiers 31 Aug
LD312201 Algiers APS in Arabic 1445 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Excerpt] Algiers, 31 Aug (APS) — Prince Sultan ibn al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, Saudi deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, left Algiers this afternoon at the end of a week-long official visit at the invitation of President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and the party's secretary general. [passage omitted]

Eight More Suspects Arrested in Isma'il Case

NC020730 Cairo MENA in English 0710 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, Sept 2 (MENA) — The security bodies have arrested eight new accomplices, who are members of the terrorist organisation calling itself "Those Salvaged From Hell," which is the military wing responsible for the political assassination attempts witnessed by Cairo in the last period, *Al-Ahram* daily reported today.

Al-Ahram further reports that the security bodies have been tightening the noose around 11 other accomplices whose names were mentioned by the arrested accomplices while they were being interrogated by the security officials.

Meanwhile, the security bodies were reported to have captured important documents in one of the hideouts frequently used by the terrorists. The documents are said to have revealed the plans and sabotage objectives of the organisation. Moreover, they reveal new dimensions relative to the contacts, movements and means resorted to by the terrorist organisation, *Al-Ahram* further says.

Al-Ahram adds that the security bodies are still exerting strenuous efforts for arresting the rest of the terrorists who are members of the military wing of the organization.

Specifically the paper mentions the physician Majdi al-Safti and 'Abd 'Atiyah, son of the landlord of the Al-Kharqaniyah house who was proved by investigations to have been working as a male nurse at the clinic of the physician, in addition to his being one of the members of the organisation.

The fifth accomplice, namely Rajab Allah whose fingerprints were found on the private car which had been used in the attempt to assassinate Al-Nabawi Isma'il and who had participated with the other four accomplices in the Al-Kharqaniyah incident, is now under interrogation with a view to defining his role in the organisation, the paper adds.

Interior Ministry on Arrest

NC011507 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1444 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 1 Sep (MENA) — An Egyptian Interior Ministry source has told MENA that the news published in a Cairo morning paper today, that a main suspect in the case of an extremist terrorist organization has been arrested, is untrue. The source said that the fact that an individual is arrested [as received] for questioning in connection with a certain case does not necessarily mean that this person is directly involved in the case. He explained that any person whose name crops up during the investigation of any case in routinely called in for testimony. The source added that it is the responsibility of the Public Prosecution Office, which is now in charge of the investigation, to determine whether any charges are subsequently pressed against such an individual.

'Abd al-Majid Departs for Turkey 1 Sep

NC010946 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0910 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 1 Sep (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Cairo for Ankara this morning for a 5-day official visit, at the invitation of Turkish Foreign Minister Vahit Halefoglu.

In a predeparture statement, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said he is carrying a written message to Turkish President Kenan Evren from President Mubarak. He added that he will also meet with Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, t/e Turkish foreign minister, and other Turkish officials to discuss bilateral relations, which he described as good. Discussions will also deal with the Middle East issue, the Palestinian issue, the international peace conference, the situation in the Gulf and Lebanon, and security in the Mediterranean basin. He added that President Mubarak's last visit to Turkey helped promote relations between the two countries, which both seek stability and peace in the region. Dr 'Abd al-Majid concluded by noting Egyptian-Turkish cooperation within the ICO and the bilateral relations between the countries, which are proceeding satisfactorily. He expressed hope that the two countries would achieve further cooperation and rapprochement.

Further Coverage of Visit

For coverage of the official visit to Turkey by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ahmad 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, see the Turkey section of the 2 September West Europe *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

Mubarak Calls Presidential Referendum for 5 Oct

NC012136 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has issued Presidential Decree No 338 for the year 1987, calling for a referendum on the president's 2d term in office. The decree says in part:

In accordance with the Constitution and Law No 73 for the year 1956 that regulates political rights and the amendments to that law, registered voters are required to go to their respective polling centers on Monday, 5 October, 1987, to participate in the referendum on the president's 2d term in office.

Mubarak To Attend Ethiopia Republic Festivities

NC011519 Cairo MENA in English 1420 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, Sept 1 — (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak will pay an official visit to Ethiopia next week at the invitation of Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam to attend celebrations marking the proclamation of the Republic in Ethiopia.

The five-day celebrations will start on September 9th. President Mubarak will hold meetings with the African leaders during his visit to Ethiopia. [passage omitted]

Al-Mahjub Departs for Romania With Mubarak Message

NC011731 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1637 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 1 Sep (MENA) — People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub and an accompanying delegation left Cairo for Bucharest this afternoon. They will be staying in Romania for 1 week at the invitation of the Romanian Grand National Assembly.

Prior to his departure, Dr al-Mahjub disclosed that he is carrying a message from President Husni Mubarak to Romanian President Ceausescu on issues of common concern. The visit to Romania, he said, is within the framework of exchanges between officials of both countries. Al-Mahjub revealed that he intends to meet with President Ceausescu and members of the Romanian Grand National Assembly. He noted that his talks in Romania will focus on parliamentary, political, and economic issues.

Maltese Minister on Libyan Ties, Area Concerns

NC010922 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2225 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] Cairo, 31 Aug (MENA) — Maltese Foreign Minister Vincent Tabone has affirmed that his country will not offer bases on its territory to anyone, nor will it join any military alliances or interfere in the internal affairs of other countries. He explained that he had informed the Libyan industry minister, who recently visited Valletta, with complete candor that his country does not accept Malta's being a military base for anyone, that it wants friendship based on cooperation, understanding, and clarity with all countries of the world, and that it will not permit anyone to impose hegemony on them or intervene in internal decisions.

In an exlcusive interview with *Al-Ahram*, to be published Tuesday, Tabone said: The opposition has accused us of destroying our treaties and our relations with Libya. In response we say that we respect our pacts and commitments, but we have some reservations about them. This does not constitute a retreat but an attempt to make these treaties clear and understandable for both parties.

The Maltese foreign minister, who is visiting Cairo, explained that when his party was in the opposition it criticized some of the provisions of the Libyan-Maltese treaty, which is considered a military alliance as it provides for supplying Libya with military information. He said: This was the focus of our objection to this treaty, for two reasons: First, because it violates the policy of nonalignment adopted by the former Maltese Government, and second, because the exchange of information provided for in the treaty was being fulfilled only by Malta; there was no real exchange of information by the two sides.

Regarding Egyptian-Maltese relations, Tabone said: I do not think that developing cooperation and understanding between Egypt and Malta adversely affects anyone. No one should be concerned about this, unless they do not want stability and peace in this area.

Regarding the sabotage of a Palestinian yacht in Maltese waters, Tabone asserted that Malta and Egypt share a common stand against terrorism. We reject it, and we stand against it, he said. He continued: Regarding this incident, I will not pretend that we were not concerned about it, particularly since we were unable to identify the perpetrator. He noted that the yacht is owned by some members of the PLO and has been in Malta's territorial waters for several years.

Asked about Malta's application to the EEC, Tabone said: We have made good progress toward joining the EEC. I do not think that the nonaligned policy of my country precludes its joining the EEC, he declared.

Concludes Visit, Departs

NC011234 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1225 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 1 Sep (MENA) — Maltese Foreign Minister Vincent Tabone left Cairo at noon today after a 3-day visit, during which he was received by President Husni Mubarak. The Maltese guest and Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, signed an agreement voiding a requirement for entry visas between the two countries. The two foreign ministers also discussed cooperation to achieve peace in the Middle East.

Paper Interviews Islamic Alliance's Al-'Aryan

JN011419 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 29 Aug 87 p13

[Interview with 'Isam al-'Aryan, member of the People's Assembly representing the Islamic Alliance, by Al-'Azab al-Tayyib al-Tahir in Cairo; date not given]

[Text] [Al-Tahir] Can you assess the previous action of the Islamic Alliance movement — and also the other parties — within the People's Assembly?

[Al-'Aryan] It is difficult to make a comprehensive review for such a short period. Most of the topics discussed in the Assembly were to ratify decisions on laws made during the Assembly's recess. They were either passed or rejected. Nevertheless, the Alliance has raised the issue of the detainess, the increase in arrests, and the improper practices that accompanied them — and that led to eliminating the situation in 2 months. The Alliance members discussed the government program, the new 5-year plan, and the new budget, and a great effort was made in these discussions. The Alliance's performance in the debates was integrated and different from the performance of the NDP and the Wafd. The roles were distributed among the Alliance Assembly members, and that prompted the NDP and Wafd members to praise the Alliance's performance, for they viewed it as a new parliamentary approach based on organized collective effort.

The Wafd Party was carrying out its parliamentary action as though it were still running in the parliamentary elections. With the exception of two or three Wafd Assembly members who enjoy a long parliamentary experience, no prominent Wafdist elements have emerged in parliament.

As for the NDP, its members did not act collectively. Each member acted on his own. I cannot understand the NDP — is it a party in the true scientific sense, or is it a group of individuals united by common interests?

[Al-Tahir] Do you not believe there is a contradiction in the stands of both the Islamic Alliance and the Wafd Party on the renomination of President Mubarak for a second term?

[Al-'Aryan] The Alliance stand is not contradictory. Its support for Mubarak's renomination was not absolute but rather was accompanied by conditions, reservations, and demands expressing the demands of the entire opposition. The demands include granting public freedoms, implementing Islamic law, abolishing detention camps, ending human rights violations and torture, consolidating the pillars of genuine democracy, reforming the economic system, and amending the Constitution. In our support for Mubarak's renomination, we were prompted by the fact that during Mubarak's administration a measure of democracy has undoubtedly been achieved and by the need for the cohesion of all the forces to overcome the present economic crisis. Moreover, there is more than one political institution: the presidency, the government, and the ruling party. It is not fair or logical to measure all of these with the same yardstick or to view them from the same standpoint. Hence our abstention in the vote on the government's program, the budget, and the new 5-year plan while declaring our support for Mubarak's nomination.

However, the contradiction — and indeed the paradox — is in the Wafd's stand. The Wafd approved the 5-year plan while it refused to agree to Mubarak's nomination as president for another 6 years. It is incomprehensible.

[Al-Tahir] It has been said by Egyptians on the political scene that the Alliance's support for Mubarak's renomination was the price paid for allowing the Islamic current into the People's Assembly — a deal that was concluded by the two sides during the recent elections contest. What is your view?

[Al-'Aryan] Certainy that is not true. My only response to such a claim is that during the recent elections 1,300 elements from the Islamic current were detained — according to Interior Ministry statements. Moreover, no side knew of our decision to support Mubarak's renomination before it was announnced at the special session of the People's Assembly. Everyone was amazed by our decision.

[Al-Tahir] The question asked on the political scene is why, then, do we see this intensive representation of the Islamic trend in the People's Assembly?

[Al-'Aryan] This is because the government cannot oppose a truly popular desire. The Islamic trend is strong on the Egyptian political scene. The participation of 500,000 people in the funeral of Shaykh 'Umar al-Tilmisani, former leader of the Muslim Brotherhood, and of 2 million people in 'Id prayers everywhere in the Republic — prayers that are organized by the Islamic groups — are an indication of this strong Islamic trend. In short, I tell you: The Islamic trend was not given a free passage, but has asserted itself despite all existing restrictions. On the other hand, other trends have not met with similar success in the last elections.

[Al-Tahir] President Mubarak often reiterates that the opposition is part of the system. Does the Islamic trend agree with that?

[Al-'Aryan] We support what President Mubarak says and consider it a positive development in the government's relationship with the opposition. By that comment, President Mubarak means that there are two types of opposition. One type operates against the regime outside the homeland and obviously seeks to overthrow it, and this type of opposition is rejected. The second type of opposition operates inside the homeland and seeks to introduce reforms and change the regime by lawful means. We belong to the latter, which does not have any foreign links.

[Al-Tahir] Do you expect the Islamic trend to obtain a majority vote in the next elections?

[Al-'Aryan] I believe that the Islamic trend could have obtained a majority vote in the last elections, which showed unanimous public support for the Islamic trend's main demand — namely, the return to Islam, which was the slogan raised by the Islamic trend as a solution.

[Al-Tahir] Let us pause a bit at this slogan. The Islamic trend is being accused of having presented this slogan without possessing the means to implement it.

[Al-'Aryan] The point the representatives of the Islamic Alliance raised during the discussion of the government's policy statement in the People's Assembly constitutes the desired practical framework for implementing that slogan. At any rate, we are not alone responsible for implementing this slogan. Others, too, are called upon to help in finding solutions rooted in our Islam and heritage and commensurate with the nature of our society. Furthermore, the Islamic Alliance has proposed a 10-point election program. An election program need not be detailed. Our movement abides by this program. Any detailed solution to any problem must be based on fact and figures. These facts and figures are monopolized by a limited group of the ruling party and withheld from the opposition.

At any rate, Islam is flexible and has the balance to enable it to benefit from all human endeavors that do not conflict with it.

[Al-Tahir] Do you agree with the expression political Islam?

[Al-'Aryan] This is an incorrect expression. Islam is Islam. It is faith, ethics, worship, and shari'a. The Muslim is a politician by virtue of his religion because the prophet, may the peace and blessings of God be upon him, said: Religion is good council. They said: For whose sake, O messenger of God? He said: For the sake of God, his messenger, his book, the imams, and all Muslims. Islam considers the individual responsible for reforming society. God says: And beware of an affliction which will not smite exclusively those among you who have done wrong. [Koranic verse]. The prophet says: Whoever sees a wrong should correct it.

[Al-Tahir] Dr 'Isam, you were a leader of the Islamic Group [Al-Jama'ah al-Islamiyah] at the University of Cairo. It has been said, or in fact scientific reports have confirmed, that Al-Sadat was the one who helped the formation of the Islamic groups at the universities with the objective of striking at the leftists and the Nasirites and that he was the one who financed these groups through the security organs.

[Al-'Aryan] This has been said by the leftists and the communists, and there is no proof. I say that the Islamic movement at the university opposed the policies of the 1970's. The clash between these groups and Al-Sadat's regime started earlier and before the assassination of Al- Sadat. This had prompted Al-Sadat to meet these groups leaders in prisons. Here I would like to ask: Is it possible for the regime to create an organization and give it strength such as that gained by the Islamic movement at the university — a movement that still dominates life in the university despite the war being waged against it?

[Al-Tahir] What is the ideological background of these groups?

[Al-'Aryan] The Koran, the prophet's tradition, and the experiences of the early apostles.

[Al-Tahir] Is not this the ideology of the Kharijites [an old religious sect of Islam] and the books of Sayyid Qutb [an Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood thinker], and Al-Mawdudi [a Pakistani Islamic thinker]?

[Al-'Aryan] No, no, those who say this know nothing about the Kharijites and Al-Mawdudi.

[Ai-Tahir] But there are Islamic groups, such as Al- Jihad and others, which follow their ideology.

[Al-'Aryan] The Al-Jihad organization is very limited.

[Al-Tahir] Is there any kind of relationship between the Muslim Breotherhood and Al-Jihad?

[Al-'Aryan] I stress to you there is no relationship between the Muslim Brotherhood and Al-Jihad.

[Al-Tahir] But is there not an ideological agreement, at least, between the two sides?

[Al-'Aryan] Actually, there is a major ideological agreement among all the members of the Islamic movement. I would like to say here that there is an original movement organizing the Islamic movement in the world, the Muslim Brotherhood. However, there are very minor groups, not worth mentioning, which might have a high voice, and because they are abnormal groups they draw attention to them. The recent elections gave the best proof of this dictum.

[Al-Tahir] Do you believe there are negative points in the Islamic movement?

[Al-'Aryan] Only those who work make errors.

[Al-Tahir] But why do some sides link the Islamic movement with violence?

[Al-'Aryan] This is a lie and injustice. The best proof of this is the recent incidents in Egypt. Although some sides linked the attempt to assassinate Hasan Abu Basha with the Islamic groups, the case reached a dead end. President Mubarak has said that there are some foreign fingers behind these incidents. Moreover, the Islamic movement and Islam cannot be judged by one or two acts by individuals. Moreover, violence is an international phenomenon.

[Al-Tahir] But there have been some acts of violence carried out by some of those who are affiliated to the Islamic movement.

[Al-'Aryan] Yes, there was the incident of the military technical college in April 1974 and the platform incident, which was carried out by a group of individuals, who were later exploited in the Asyut incidents. All these were attempts aimed at toppling the ruling regime.

[Al-Tahir] I would like to ask you now about the investment companies, which are currently creating an uproar. How do you assess these companies, and is there any relationship between these companies and the Muslim Brotherhood?

[Al-'Aryan] I am with those who call on these companies to invest their funds in Egypt and the Islamic countries, and I stress the need for these funds to be invested in productive projects. I also call on these companies to announce their budgets — their profits and losses — and for them to contribute to alleviating the sufferings of Muslims and non-Muslims. However, I am againsd those who attack these companies only because they do not follow a nonusury economic system, and I do not say an Islamic system. At the same time, I appeal to the state and the other Islamic states to study the phenomenon of fund investment and to examine why a large number of people deposit their funds in these companies. The state should deal with these companies in a manner that guarantees citizens' rights because more than 1 million families deal with these companies. Regarding these companies' relationship with the Muslim Brotherhood, I say, that capitalists are cowards by nature, so they do not take political action, but if they were to, it would then be toward the regime.

[Al-Tahir] But the magazine *Al-Hawadith* attributed a dialogue to Shaykh Hamid Abu al-Nasr, including an insinuation to the effect that some of these companies have financed the Brotherhood's campaign in the recent elections.

[Al-'Aryan] I doubt these statement attributed to Shaykh Hamid Abu al-Nasr. However, I say that I did not get any help from these companies during my electoral campaign.

Al-Qadhdhafi Sends 'Important' Message to Gorbachev

LD021057 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1015 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli, 2 Sep (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution this morning received the Soviet ambassador to the Great Jamahiriyah. The brother leader handed the Soviet ambassador an important message for Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Syria's Al-Ahmar 31 Aug

JN010744 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli — Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September revolution, yesterday received Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, and members of the party and government delegation accompanying him. During the meeting, Comrade al-Ahmar conveyed President Hafiz al- Asad's greetings to Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Syria's congratulations of the people, party, and government, to the fraternal Libyan people on the 18th anniversary of the 1 September revolution.

The Syrian delegation led by Comrade al-Ahmar arrived in Tripoli last night to represent Syria and its leadership in the Libyan people's celebration on the 1 September revolution anniversary. The delegation includes Comrade Tawfiq Salihah, Ba'th Party Regional Command member; and 'Abd al-Mun'im Hamawi, minister of state for cabinet affairs.

The delegation was received at the airport by Colonel Abu Bakr Jabir Yunus, commander in chief of the Libyan Armed Forces; the head of the Syrian Liaison Bureau in Tripoli; bureau members; and a number of Libyan officials.

JANA Political Editor Comments on Habre Aozou Claim

LD012007 Tripoli JANA in English 1833 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Fatih [September] 1, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Some new agencies and broadcasts report nowadays news claiming that France and U.S. agent "Ibri" still keeps some positions under his control in the Libyan Arab strip of Aozou.

JANA's political editor commented on that by saying:

"What the anti-Great Jamahiriyah media promote and what agent 'Ibri' does to reiterate is in fact a failed attempt to preserve the face water of agent Ibri and to reassure the dwarfs and the hirelings around us.

"We would like to assure those who rumour such claims that those positions, which agent Habre claims he keeps, do not exist except in his imagination and the imagination of his imperialist masters behind whom he hides".

JANA's political editor added: "Those who spread such claims reveal their stupidity, for they do not realise that their false statements are a double-edged weapon. For despite their imagination that by reiterating such claims they can hide their bitter defeat, they at the same time present the justification for the continued crushing of agent Ibri's remnants who had fled outside Aozou escaping from the fires of our Libyan Arab forces".

Saudi Defense Minister Arrives on Official Visit
LD011405 Rabat MAP in English 1230 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Rabat, Sept 1 (MAP) — Saudi Second Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense and Aviation Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Monday arrived here on an official visit to Morocco at the invitation of King Hassan II.

Prince Sultan was greeted at the airport by Moroccan Prime Minister Azzedine Laraki, senior officials and Saudi ambassador to Morocco. In a press statement Prince Sultan expressed his thanks to King Hassan II for inviting him to visit Morocco. Exchange of visits enhance further bilateral relations, Prince Sultan said, underlining that his visit aims at consolidating the privileged relations between both nations. He expressed the hope that the earnest efforts made by all would lead to the success of Arab and Islamic causes.

Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed, offered Monday evening a dinner in honour of Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. Senior government officials and the members of the Saudi delegation attended the banquet.

Chadian Envoy Arrives With Habre Message for Hassan
LD011342 Rabat MAP in English 1232 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Rabat, Sept 1 (MAP) — Chadian Minister to the Presidency of the Republic and Controller General Korom Ahmed, Monday arrived here, as envoy of President Hissein Habre to King Hassan II.

In a press statement, the minister said his visit was significant in view of the difficult situation now facing Chad.

Chadian envoy also said he was holding a message from President Habre to the Moroccan monarch.

Al-Mahdi Queried on South's Crisis, Ties With Egypt

JN311801 Cairo UKTUBAR in Arabic 30 Aug 87 pp 11-13

[Interview with Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi by Ahmad Shahin in Khartoum; date not given]

[Text][Shahin] What are the reasons for the current crisis? How can it be overcome and what guarantee is there that it will not recur in the future?

[Al-Mahdi] First, I do not consider it a crisis in the true sense of the word. However, a problem has arisen between the two major parties which are allied within the framework of a national unity government. The problem deals with the fifth member in the State Council. The fifth seat on the State Council became vacant following the resignation of Muhammad al-Hasan 'Abdallah Yasin. Usually, before adopting a final stand on the nomination to a post assigned to the Al-Ummah Party, the party holds some kind of consultations to avoid making rigid decisions which cannot be dealt with later.

This has been the usual method in the dealings between the Al-Ummah party and the Democratic Unionist Party [DUP]. This has been implemented with respect to the appointment of many officials such as the appointment of ministers and governors of regions. But this method had not been applied to the appointment of State Council members. We agreed on this when the alliance was first established. That is why there are no precedents regarding the appointment of the State Council chairman or any member on this Council. Some kind of consultations are held regarding appointments to other posts.

But in this case, no consultations were held. The DUP decided to nominate Dr Ahmad al-Sayyid Ahmad as the fifth member on the State Council. This decision was made at a joint meeting of the DUP Parliamentary Committee and Political Bureau. During that period, Muhammad 'Uthman al- Mirghani was abroad. Since no coordination or consultations took place, the Al-Ummah Party Parliamentary Committee and Political Bureau discussed this nomination and decided to reject it. This rejection was based on certain objective reasons that were specified during a meeting of the Al-Ummah Party. There is a code of conduct between the Al-Ummah Party and the DUP, including specific rules and customs with respect to consultations and coordination. They have agreed on certain rules concerning the Sudanese who collaborated with the Numayri regime. Within the framework of the Rajab revolution charter, they agreed to liquidate the effects of the May regime, namely, the removal of some officials who occupied constitutional or leading positions during the May regime.

This issue was carefully studied. The memorandum of understanding between the Al-Ummah Party and the DUP outlined the course of action in the next stage of the national unity government as to which officials would be removed from office. This is part of the commitment to liquidate the effects of the May regime. All officials who had exploited their political positions to the detriment of others were to be removed, as were those who obtained undeserved exceptional promotions. Those who participated in the security organs, pursued citizens and harmed them, as well as those who became rich by doing favors were also to lose their positions. Those who rejected the appointment of Dr Ahmad al-Sayyid believe that the first point applies to him. When he was a minister and an adviser to Numayri, he virulently attacked the political forces which opposed Numayri. When the Al-Ummah Party rejected his appointment, it did not do so acting as some kind of custodianship over the DUP. Rather, it acted pursuant to the agreements that were signed between the DUP and the Al-Ummah Party. These agreements were signed by 'Ali Hasan Taj al-Din, Husayn Abu Salih, 'Umar Nur al-Da'im, and Sayyid Ahmad al-Husayn, as representatives of the DUP.

Of course a dispute over this problem emerged between the two parties. This dispute prompted the Democratic Unionist Party [DUP] to decide that the selection of any Democratic Unionist other than Dr Ahmad al-Sayyid would result in that person's dismissal from the party because he opposed the party's decision. The DUP also decided that if the Al-Ummah Party rejected the election of Dr Ahmad al-Sayyid, the coalition would be considered dissolved. This was their decision. The outcome of Ahmad al-Sayyid Hamad's rejection ensued. So far, the DUP's position remains unclear. This was the case even after the dialogue that took place at 1000 on Wednesday, 19 August, because theoretically it dissolved the coalition, but in practice the coalition still stands.

The DUP decided to break up the coalition in the absence of Muhammad 'Uthman al-Mirghani, the party leader. Now that Muhammad 'Uthman has returned, we are waiting for the party to define its position because there are other options. I am not saying that this is a crisis in the sense that there is a power crisis or a difficulty in finding a solution. There are many solutions and more than one option. The Constituent Assembly, that is the Sudanese parliament, is comprised of the following: almost 40 percent from the Al-Ummah Party; 22 percent from the DUP; 20 percent from the Islamic Front; and nearly 18 percent from the southern and Nubian parties. This setup allows for several combinations and this essentially means that there are several available and easy options. First, the rift between the DUP and the Al-Ummah Party could be healed and this would mean at least 62 percent representation. The Al-Ummah Party and the Islamic Front could form a coalition and this would mean 60 percent representation. Or, the Al-Ummah Party could form a coalition with the other forces and this would mean 58 percent representation. The important thing is that the Al-Ummah Party is the largest common denominator. Why? When all these elements are joined together you arrive at the final formula: The Al-Ummah Party is closer to the DUP than the DUP is to the Islamic Front; the Al-Ummah Party is closer to the Islamic Front than the Islamic Front is to the DUP; and the Al-Ummah Party is closer to the smaller parties than these parties are to the Islamic Front or the DUP. For these reasons, the Al-Ummah Party is therefore the largest common denominator. Second, even if this were not true, homogeneity between the southern parties and the small Nubian parties and the Islamic Front is impossible because of their disparity. Let us assume this does happen and all these things are ovecome, and an alliance comprising the Islamic Front, the DUP, the southern parties, the Nubians and communists, is formed. This would constitute a very contradictory combination and its representation would not exceed 60 percent. It would be impossible for this percentage to form a government if you have a cohesive 40 percent representation for the Al-

Ummah Party. Therefore, we in the Al-Ummah Party believe that what happened was the result of differences and every party should discuss its options. Our calculations lead us to believe that each party will arrive at the following when discussing its options: The most practical option is some form of power-sharing with the Al-Ummah Party.

[Shahin] Who would participate in the power-sharing?

[Al-Mahdi] I do not know, since each of these parties (the DUP, the National Islamic Front, and the southern Sudan parties) will come to realize that their only choice is some kind of alliance with the Al-Ummah Party. The Al-Ummah Party does not seek a monopoly. It is not interested in monopolizing power with anyone. Our charter with the DUP provides for an alliance between us and for devising a formula on a possible expansion of the power base. This is provided for in the charter of understanding.

[Shahin] Which option does the Al-Ummah Party support?

[Al-Mahdi] We do not call it a national government, since this designation has been misunderstood. We call it a fence-mending government. The Al-Ummah Party expects to mend fences with the DUP. If and when this happens we must remove the causes of the differences. In this regard, the Al-Ummah Party will view the selection of the fifth member to the State Council from outside the DUP as a curtailment of the latter's representation. This calls for a speedy resolution of the issue. However the problem does not lie here. It has more to do with whether the parties concerned abide by what was agreed upon, because a failure to honor this agreement would mean that the clause enshrined in the Brotherhood Charter is sufficient to exclude names that do not meet the terms of existing agreements. Therefore, proper attention must be paid to the manner in which agreements are implemented to avert a repetition of what happened concerning the election of the fifth member. We think the problem must be approached within the framework of healing the rift between the two parties and a solution must be found to the problem of selecting the fifth member. Furthermore, a reliable means must be devised to ensure implementation of what has been agreed upon. This should be possible and a decision by the government should not be a problem. Alternatively, the base could be expanded. We think the Al-Ummah Party has built strong enough relations with all the other forces to expand them still further. We are in no hurry to decide the issue in a day or two. We would like the positions adopted on whatever option to be decided upon accordingly: either to heal the rift or expand the base. We will have a detailed, definite project of the second option. We think the problem is not too knotty to be solved. The options are endless and subject to objective circumstances. We think all political forces will discover the objective facts once they discuss the issue. We also think the Sudanese are tolerant and broad-minded enough to accommodate opposition. God willing we will reconcile our differences once and for all.

[Shahin] Do you believe that the economic situation will be affected or that Sudan's problems will be exacerbated as a result of its preoccupation with political differences?

[Al-Mahdi] What surprises me is that the political differences took place while national issues were on their way to being resolved. For example, Sudan is an agricultural country. Development in Sudan depends on agriculture, industry, and other activities. We achieved a 12 percent increase in agricultural development. This is a record figure. If we take development as a whole, we achieved a 75 percent increase when compared with 1984-1985 development figures. We believe that in view of the rainy season and agricultural preparations, this season promises to be as good, if not better, than the previous one.

[Shahin] In spite of the low rainfall and reports on it?

[Al-Mahdi] They are not true. The rainfall was not low. The meterological department confirms that rain has fallen all over the country. Therefore, we believe the agricultural season will be a good one.

A major dispute existed between Sudan and the IMF for over 2 years. An agreement has now been reached with the IMF. It can be considered as one of the best agreements ever concluded between the IMF and another country. It is based on Sudan's concept of economic reform. We believe that this is a very positive development.

[Shahin] Is it true that the agreement with the IMF contains a devaluation of the Sudanese pound, the floating of prices, and the suspension of subsidies?

[Al-Mahdi] This is not true. Our agreement with the IMF does not contain a devaluation of the Sudanese pound.

The agreement encourages exports by granting exchange rates for the dollar that are higher than the official rates. We were doing this even before we reached the agreement with the IMF. We have encouraged exports. The agreement also stipulates that the actual circumstances of some imports will be taken into consideration. However, the agreement does not contain the suspension of subsidies from any commodity or the transfer of public sector companies to the private sector. We also made sure that the agreement takes into consideration Sudan's political trends, social problems, budget deficit, and balance of payments situation. Perhaps one of the most important points in the agreement is the restraint placed on dependence on the banking system and reduced monetary liquiduity in Sudan. We will publish the details at the appropriate time. However, we are satisfied that the agreement is in line with Sudan's interests and with the real state of affairs in our country.

Third, Sudan is now preparing a development redressment program based on a development plan. This program has almost been completed. Concerning economic development, we believe that the good agricultural season, the agreement with the IMF, and the redressment program are all matters which constitute basic cornerstones in tackling economic problems. We believe that our relationship with the IMF will allow us to secure components, including spare parts and raw materials necessary for industrial production. If this takes place, along with filling the gap in the balance of payments, then the problem of scarce commodities in Sudan will be removed.

[Shahin] What about southern Sudan?

[Al-Mahdi] Concerning this national problem, we believe that there has been improvement in the Armed Forces' efficiency and in their ability to deter the rebellion. We even have many signs that very large numbers of those who took up arms are now laying them down. Regarding the political aspects of this problem, we believe that both us and the other party have the components for a political solution. I believe that if you follow up the words uttered by John Garang, you will sense in them a spirit which is more positive than in the past. This is contrary to what was said by Nigerian General Obasanjo, who is trying to mediate in the conflict. We have decided to cancel the September 1983 Islamic laws enacted by Numayri. But the problem of how to cancel them remains. Another problem is how to replace these laws in keeping with the Muslim majority's aspirations for the implementation of Islamic laws and the non-Muslims' desire to exempt themselves from such laws.

We believe that there is now a plan being prepared for this purpose which will be presented to the Sudanese Government. We also believe that by arriving at this point we have reached a just and sound equation. This equation can be added to the positive signs I have already mentioned.

I believe that the current differences have created a distraction from the exciting news. However, one who deeply considers things will see that there has been major progress in fundamental and basic issues. We also believe that none of these differences is expected to affect the positive signs. This is mainly due to the fact that what has been achieved involves a basic agreement among all the Sudanese political groups. Even when we did not have disputes with the DUP, we did our best to involve the opposition in basic issues. Therefore, we believe that no danger is posed to such fundamental issues regardless of the political configuration or whether this takes place by healing the rift in the alliance or by expanding the power base.

Therefore, we believe that we can only build on the positive achievements that have been made. There should be no disagreement, for instance, on our agreement with the IMF, or with regard to the agricultural season, the peaceful solution with the southerners, the security policy, and the alternative national development plan. We do not expect any disagreement at the expense of what has been achieved in all these fields. Therefore, the solution will come even if it means changes in personnel and in the form of government. The main thing is that there will be no change in the achievements already made, especially since the Al-Ummah Party has a prominent position in the government, commensurate with its representation in parliament. All this provides some kind of a guarantee.

In order to prevent any disturbances in the positive developments that have taken place in the abovementioned fields, the following guarantees are provided:

1. Despite our problems in the existing coalition, we have always maintained our bridges with the opposition. The opposition's opinions have been taken into consideration in all previous assessments.

2. Judging by figures, the Al-Ummah Party will have the influence that is dictated by the support of 40 percent of the membership in parliament.

These guarantees will protect the achievements that have been made even if it becomes necessary to act upon new opinions and carry out certain limited changes in accordance with the second option, which is broader than the coalition option.

[Shahin] What is your view of Egyptian-Sudanese relations and how can they be promoted?

[Al-Mahdi] In Egyptian-Sudanese relations we used to base our relations on establishments and organizations linked to Ja'far Numayri's regime. The elected Sudanese political leadership now believes that we must do away with all organisations and agreements linked to that regime since they are vestiges of a defunct regime. However, abandoning organizations and agreements does not mean abandoning the basic relations between the two countries. Therefore, we drew up a new framework called the Fraternity Charter. We are now in the process of working toward certain objectives, such as making the Charter the foundation for joint organizations in the economic, cultural, security, and other fields. We are not after institutions that create a great deal of hullabaloo such as joint parliaments and joint meetings. This is all empty talk.

For instance, among the objectives is the issue of food and security. With regard to wheat, meat, oil, sugar, and corn one can say that the two countries can obtain these commodities from their own resources. If we are able to achieve this then we would have made a very big leap forward with regard to food security.

These are the issues that we want to base our cooperation on — not national organs or empty slogans. We believe that the current preparations will enable us to hold meetings at times to be agreed upon with the Egyptian Government to set up the programs and bodies that will give life and spirit to the faternity agreement. In our judgment, this is the best framework for cooperation, particularly since there are no longer any senile politicians who want to return to the conditions in which politicans in the Sudanese political arena sought to find basic differences in relations with Egypt. We believe this stage has passed. Sudanese political forces have, to a great extent, resolved the issue on the basis that emotions and slogans must be put aside and relations must be organized on a firm basis that is not affected by political differences but springs from the geopolitical requirements of the relations between the two countries.

We believe that the fear-mongers should not be allowed to resurrect the ghosts of the past and revive the differences in Egyptian-Sudanese relations. These stands have been erased by a unified Sudanese national stand which we hope will constitute the base for the Fraternity Charter, and the programs, and bodies that will be agreed upon when the Fraternity Charter is implemented.

[Shahin] Soon?

[Al-Mahdi] Yes. We are now preparing the points which you mentioned. We hope that immediately after we complete our

preparations to contact the Egyptian Government to set a date for a visit by the prime minsiter at the invitiation of the Sudanese Government to discuss these issues and resolve them, God willing.

[Shahin] The invitiation is still there?

[Al-Mahdi] I believe that many of the ghosts of the past are not happy to remain in their graves and want to be resurrected to agitate by talking about tension — and this is nonsense. In our judgment there is a rational and pragmatic view on relations between Sudan and Egypt. It is this view that will safeguard the strength of these relations against any emotional changes, and we hope efforts will be made in this regard.

The present problems in Sudan appear to be bigger than what they really are, and you will see that, God willing, they will be overcome. They are part of the "teething" process of democracy.

Bourguiba Receives Chadian Special Envoy

LD311216 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba today met with Korom Ahmed, Chadian President Hissein Habre's special envoy, in the presence of Rachid Sfar; Zine Labedine Ben Ali; Amor Chedli; and Taib Shabani, secretary of state at the Foreign Ministry.

The Chadian envoy later said he delivered a message from Habre to President Bourguiba dealing with the new developments in Chad. He added that President Habib Bourguiba advised Chad to work for a peaceful settlement, a stand our country has always supported, while adhering to its sovereignty and territorial security.

Tunis Police Disperse Islamist Demonstrators

LD312158 Paris International Service in French
2030 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] There was another demonstration by Islamists today in Tunis, a demonstration which was quickly dispersed by the police, who can be seen in great numbers at all the crossroads of the Tunisian capital. The trial of 90 Islamic Tendency Movement [ITM] militants resumes tomorrow.

The Tunisian Human Rights League is demanding the opening of an inquiry into the suspicious deaths of seven Islamist militants and one trade union militant. The Human Rights League also reports torture of ITM militants on police premises.

Court Resumes Islamic Tendency Movement Trial 1 Sep

LD012049 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] The State Security Court this morning resumed the examination of the case of the members of the so-called Islamic Tendency Movement under the chairmanship of Hashemi Zammel. After the accused were called, the defense presented a series of formal pleas and asked that the case be postponed in order to study the case files. The general prosecutor to the State Security Court requested that the defense's postponement request and formal pleas be rejected. The president of the court then adjourned the session for deliberation. The body of the court returned to the session hall, and Hashemi Zammel responded to the pleas raised by the defense. He explained that the pleas were unfounded on legal bases and did not have any reasonable justifications; therefore, he rejected them. He said that the court had decided to continue the examination of the case. Hashemi Zammel then reviewed the facts related to the incidents which took place between 23 April 1987 and 11 August 1987, which were committed by the accused either directly or through other means all over the Republic. He also enumerated the human and material damage resulting from the disturbance and violent acts.

Hashemi Zammel read out the resolution concluding the inquiry into the case of the so-called Islamic Tendency Movement. The accused were bound over according to several chapters of the penal code and the law related to associations as well as some of the laws related to the press. In particular they were bound over for committing crimes of aggression aimed at changing the state system; urging citizens to attack each other with arms; inciting to homicide; establishing ties with a foreign state and elements abroad; combatting the public force; amassing arms; preserving a nonauthorized association; defaming public order and official bodies; harming the honor of his excellency the president and members of the government; spreading false information which could disrupt public order; distributing leaflets urging people to attack each other; calling for homicide; and combatting the authorities. The resolution concluding the inquiry included the presentation of the 90 accused.

INTER-GULF AFFAIRS

Further on Iranian, Iraqi Raids on Gulf Shipping

Lloyds on Three Hit Tankers

JN020600 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
0500 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] Military escalation continues in the Gulf. Three oil tankers were hit last night and today. Lloyds says the Liberian registered Japanese tanker *Diamond Marine* was attacked by two gunboats and was hit by two missiles. The tanker refused all assistance and is now heading for Dubayy Port in the UAE.

Lloyds also said that a Cypriot tanker was hit by a missile after it was loaded with oil at Khark Island. The *Star Ray* suffered material damage but was able to continue its journey.

This morning, an Iranian naval vessel struck the Cypriot tanker *Lionidas Glory* with two missiles but the tanker continued its journey to Al-Shariqah in the UAE.

Iranian Vessels Attack Ship

JN020829 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
0800 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] Citing maritime sources, reports from Manama say that an unidentified ship came under attack by three Iranian high-speed boats. The boats fired at and hit the ship midway between the Iranian Farsi Island and the Saudi coast in the middle of the Gulf.

The Gulf maritime sources say the Iranian high-speed boats generally embark from the Iranian Farsi Island and attack ships sailing in the middle of the Gulf.

Greek, Cypriot Tankers Struck

NC021016 Athens Domestic Service in Greek
0900 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] The Persian Gulf has become a hell of fire during the last 16 hours. Iran has attacked four tankers, while a fifth tanker was attacked by Iraqi fighter planes. The vessels attacked include the Greek tanker *Daphne* and the Cypriot tanker *Leonidas Glory*, which have both been damaged. Fortunately there are no casualties.

GCC Radio To Be Broadcast From Radio Qatar

TB011530 Kuwait KUNA in English 1217 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] Riyadh, Aug 31, (KUNA) — Radio of the G[illegible] Cooperation Council will broadcast its two hour programme Radio Qatar tomorrow Tuesday [1 September] for the [illegible]se months, in accordance with the time table of the 2nd mee[illegible] the GCC information ministers that was held in Jeddah, Sa[illegible] Arabia last June, a statement issued today by the GCC General Secretariate said.

The broadcast's programmes are prepared jointly by radios of the six member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Oman and Bahrain.

Radio Qatar will broadcast this term's programmes from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm Qatar's local time [1400-1600 GMT], the statement said.

KUWAIT

Al-'Usaymi Departs for Saudi Arabia 2 Sep

LD020824 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0703 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] Kuwait — Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi, Kuwaiti minister of state for foreign affairs, departed for Jeddah this morning. An official source at the Foreign Ministry told KUNA that the minister was carrying a message from Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al'-Sabah to King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques. He added that the message concerns the latest developments in the region.

Trade Minister Returns From African Tour

LD291618 Kuwait KUNA in English 1451 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 29 (KUNA) — An envoy of H.H. the amir and Minister of Trade and Industry Faysal al-Khalid returned home Saturday [29 August] after delivering H.H. the amir's messages to six African leaders on the situation in the Arabian Gulf and Kuwait's stand toward these developments.

Al-Khalid told KUNA upon arrival that he delivered H.H. the amir's messages to leaders of Gambia, Sierra Leone, Benin, Gabon, Uganda and Comoros.

He added that he sensed, during his meeting with leaders of the African countries, understanding for Kuwaiti measures, noting the African leaders supported the Kuwaiti measures.

Al-Khalid's tour comes within the framework of a Kuwaiti dipomatic plan that coincides with another tour by Information Minister Shaykh Nassir Muhammad al-Ahmad aimed at explaining Kuwait's stand toward the situation in the Arabian Gulf and the Iraq-Iran war.

PDRY

Secretary General al-Bid Opens 10th YSP CC Session

EA301509 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] The YSP Central Committee began its 10th ordinary session this morning under the chairmanship of Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the Central Committee. The session was devoted to considering a number of reports connected with ideological action and the ways to improve it and develop its instruments and methods. At this session the Central Committee will also consider the resolutions of the general party conference

and how to implement them to ensure the continued development of the party's internal life, the strengthening of its leading role in society, and its relations with the toiling masses.

Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the Central Committee, opened the session with a speech in which he focused on the session's agenda and the vital subjects it contained. He pointed out that the role of the Central Committee as a leading institution has been and continues to be an expression of our party's struggle for unity by relying on an ideological and political course, a course of scientific socialism and proletariat internationalism which is a guarantee for strengthening party unity.

The brother secretary general stressed that the Central Committee was the leading party institution qualified to correct the party's policy whenever it erred. It possessed the capacity to uncover aspects of error in the life and activities of the party, through objective evaluation and in the spirit of criticism and self-criticism, and to maintain strict party accounting for the work of party institutions and the activities and practices of its leading elements.

He pointed out the Central Committee sessions ought to ensure the prerequisites for the evaluation and deepening of the development of ideological, organizational, and political life to unite the party and entrench its leading role on the basis of its program and internal statutes.

The brother secretary general clarified that during the period following the victory over the bloody 13 January conspiracy, the Central Committee and its Political Bureau succeeded in considering, with a high sense of responsibility, a number of issues placed before the party and the people, including those connected with the situation that arose after the conspiracy and the tasks connected with advancing the revolutionary process in internal and external arenas.

The brother secretary general described the success of the general party congress as glittering evidence of our party's power, cohesiveness, and firm adherence to socialism and its iron determination to persevere along the road of socialism by reliance on the support and backing of the working class, the peasants, the revolutionary intellectuals, and the rest of the toiling masses, as well as on the support and backing of our strategic allies: the USSR and other socialist countries, the Arab and international liberation movements, and all international democratic and progressive forces.

The brother secretary general stressed the importance of serious and earnest discussion of issues of ideological action. He said the more the party could enhance ideological and political consciousness and scientific knowledge, the comprehension of party documents, ideology, and class consciousness, and the dissemination of party policy among the toiling masses, the less vulnerable the party would be to the dangers of opportunist deviation. In this connection the brother secretary general stressed that our ability to solve economic and social problems and to confront enemies' conspiracies depended principally on our success on the ideological front. He pointed out that today our enemies are employing all forms of destructive ideological action against us, attempting to exploit the detritus of the past to create difficulties and obstructions for our revolution.

The brother secretary general also stressed the need to wage a relentless struggle against the ideas of the bourgeoisie, the petty bourgeoisie, and the feudalist detritus of the past and to refuse to coexist, cooperate with, or tolerate them. He stressed the need to adopt an aggressive attitude in political and ideological action. Our cadres must be broadly responsible and qualified to enable us to effectively carry out our tasks.

Referring to his visit to Sanaa and his talks with leaders of the northern part of the homeland, led by brother President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salim, the secretary general expressed his satisfaction with the visit and its result. He said the visit marked a new point of departure for the joint march by the leaders of the two parts of the homeland toward achieving the unification of the territory and people of the Yemeni homeland by peaceful and democratic means. The brother secretary general then touched on the grave situation affecting the Arab region, particularly the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf, as a result of the continuing Iraq-Iran war and the mustering of huge military armadas by the United States and its aggressive NATO allies in the Arab Gulf, the Indian Ocean, and the Gulf of Aden.

He said the movement of these armadas coincided with the provocative military exercises mounted by the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force in collaboration with the forces of a number of states in the region. This, he said, was a matter that posed a threat to the security and stability of our region in general. He pointed out our country mounted a political campaign to condemn the presence of these forces and urged the countries in the region to unify their efforts to preserve their security, safety, and stability.

Concluding his speech, the secretary general expressed confidence that the 10th session of the Central Committee would constitute, with the issues placed before it and the way it would tackle them, a perpetuation of the traditions of our party to strengthen party unity, deepen its political and ideological course, and entrench the socialist course of our party and revolution.

Report on YSP CC Communique

EA0?2139 Aden ANA in Arabic 1337 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Aden, 1 Sep — The YSP Central Committee has issued a communique on its 10th session.

The YSP Central Committee stressed the special significance of its 10th session — held from 29 to 31 August 1987, chaired by Comrade 'Ali Salim al-Bid, YSP Central Committee secretary general — as the first session since the holding of the general party congress. It was convened to evaluate the party's ideological, cultural, and educational activities among the masses, its policies in these areas, and to endorse the programs for implementing the general party congress' resolutions. A timetable has been drawn up for implementing its documents, resolutions, and programs, with all efforts to be dedicated to ensuring that the construction process advances public life and to achieving our

country's development and progress and the prosperity of our people.

The Central Committee stressed in the communique the great importance of its members' and candidate members' deeper absorption of the theory of scientific socialism, and the creative link between theory and practice, words and actions, to patch the sources of deviation and combat hostile ideologies and all forms of ideological sabotage.

The Central Committee drew attention to publicity work and urged mass organizations, the trade unions, ASHID [Democratic Yemen Youth Union], professional and other creative organizations, and the mass media to perform their role in this field, and to work resolutely to eliminate shortcomings, threats, and difficulties attached to our country's revolutionary experiment. The committee called for the removal of the psychological, social, economic, and cultural effects of the bloody 13 January conspiracy; for the strengthening of security and psychological equilibrium; and for all measures to be taken to ensure a proper standard of living for the workers, cooperative peasants, and all other population g. ps. It also called for the level of political and class consciousness to be raised and the superiority of the socialist path to be demonstrated.

The committee approved the drawing up of detailed plans and programs to achieve (?social mobility) and the exchange of experience among the different governorates, and to direct the mass media and mass organizations to include these objectives in their quarterly and annual plans. Journalists, educated people, and men of letters should work ceaselessly to spread patriotic and progressive education and the history of the Yemeni people. Party and government bodies should persistently encourage writing, publishing, and translating.

The Central Committee reviewed the basic questions relating to education and instruction, the democratic nature of education, and improving its quality. It stressed the need to allocate the resources necessary to solve the chronic prooblems of education: it additionally laid great stress on developing patriotic and progressive education in our country and raising the level of awareness of its extreme importance in our lives, since this is an integral ingredient of the national personality, literary heritage, and history.

The committee praised the successes achieved in the recent past regarding the level of political consciousness among the masses of our people. It was thanks to this consciousness that we were able to thwart the 13 January conspiracy and overcome its effects. This confirms an important fact for the enemies of the Yemeni revolution — namely, the loyalty and the rallying of the masses around our leading party, the YSP, and the loyalty of the masses to the ideals of the party, the principles of scientific socialism, and proletarian internationalism. These are principles and ideals that are in harmony with our national interests.

The Central Committee also considered the implementation of the tasks set forth in the documents of the general party conference in the organizational, economic, ideological, and political fields. In connection with this, the committee drew up a scientific, mandatory program for our party and government plans for the future period. The committee called on party members in different areas of work and production to make greater efforts to implement the program.

The committee hailed the high and constant vigilance of the country's defense and security institutions against the effects of the 13 January conspiracy. The committee additionally expressed all high appreciation for the success of the party and youth organizations' leaders and institutions in the course of overcoming the effects of the 13 January conspiracy, as well as in the reconstruction of these organizations and the raising of the level of their defense and security readiness.

The Central Committee stressed the need to develop our Armed Forces, secure their requirements, and improve their living, health, and housing conditions. It recommended enhancing the effectiveness of ideological action organizations in the defense and security establishments by strengthening their material base, developing ideological material for them, improving the performance of cadres working in the ideological field, and increasing the work and role of party grassroots organizations, thus imprinting ideological work with a comprehensive and direct offensive. The Central Committee also stressed the need to coordinate the efforts of the Interior and Justice Ministries, the Attorney General's Office, and the Judiciary to enable the backlog of cases to be dealt with, including cases of financial failure and embezzlement, in the interests of enforcing laws and regulations in force. In the light of the general party conference, the Central Committee approved the principal guidelines for the development of defense and security institutions to increase their effectiveness up to 1990.

On the basis of the resolutions of the general party conference and its approach of dealing with leadership questions with a class and ideological vision, and its views on handling the important matters with which our party deals, the Central Committee approved the elevation of the Central Committee members and candidate members elected by the general party conference to basic members [ada asasiyyin].

Considering the guidelines for presenting reports and conducting party committee elections in grassroots organizations, expanded meetings and conferences of representatives in districts, provinces, and governorates, and in Armed Forces and party organizations abroad, together with electing auditing committees in the provinces and governorates up to the year 1987/88, the Central Committee approved the guidelines for the full elections for the period 1987/90. However, elections in grassroots organizations up to governorate committees must be held on the fixed dates.

With regard to the Yemeni arena, the Central Committee expressed its high appreciation for the visit to Sanaa by Comrade 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, and the high-level delegation which went with him to the historic capital of unified Yemen. The committee registered its satisfaction with the outcome of the visit, since it constituted a new start in the joint march by the leaderships of both parts of the homeland on the road to achieving the unity of the Yemeni homeland, territory, and people by peaceful and democratic means.

The Central Committee hailed the 25th anniversary of the immortal Yemeni 26 September Revolution which launched a new age in the life of our Yemeni people and opened before them horizons of progress, development, and unity despite the difficulties which faced this revolution, for which our heroic Yemeni people paid a high price of thousands of victims and martyrs.

The Central Committee examined the latest developments and the dangerous situation in the Gulf region, the Arabian Peninsula, the Red Sea, and the Horn of Africa. In addition they viewed the threat posed by the continuing escalation of the U.S. imperialist presence and that of the aggressive NATO alliance in the region through the massing of troops and fleets and the conducting of provocative military exercises with the armies of some countries of the region. In view of these latest developments, the Central Committee condemned these intensive aggressive imperialist moves which constitute a real and direct threat to the peoples and countries of the region, endangering their interests, security, stability, and safety.

With regard to the escalation of the Iraq-Iran war and the possibilities of its expansion to include the territory of other countries, the Central Committee defined its principled and consistent stand toward this war which is destroying the resources and energies of both peoples and countries. It appealed for an immediate end to the war, the continuation of which serves only the interests of the imperialists and their designs on the region. It is a threat to the security, stability, and sovereignty of the countries and peoples of the region. The Central Committee appealed to both warring parties to settle their differences by peaceful means and to desist from expanding the battlefield and resorting to threats of forcefully occupying others' territory. They should respond to the ceaseless international efforts and recent Security Council Resolution No 598 concerning the end of the conflict between both countries.

The Central Committee stressed the importance of respecting the independence, sovereignty, and safety of the territory of every country in the region and of desisting from interference in the internal affairs of others. They should embark on joint cooperation to strengthen security, stability, and their independent development.

The Central Committee appealed to Arab and international public opinion to condemn the aggressive imperialist assault on our Arab region arising from the aggressive policies of the Zionist and U.S. imperialist circles in the Middle East and their attempts through pressure and blackmail to impose a policy of bilateral deals to repudiate the Palestinian role. It asked the Arab national liberation movements and their vanguard forces to rise to the threat to their existence and to work to settle their bilateral differences, mobilizing all material, human, and military resources to confront their principal enemy represented by Zionism and imperialism under the leadership of the United States and its allies.

The communique said the fact our region was being subjected to an imperialist military (?threat) confirms that the peaceful and democratic course followed by the forces of progress and socialism was the only path by which humanity could avoid the dangers of war and destructive conflicts. Accordingly, the Central Committee reiterated its full support for the peaceful policy pursued by the USSR and the countries of the socialist community, and for the peace initiatives aimed at getting rid of the centers of tension, ending the arms race, nuclear disarmament, as well as entrenching peace, security, and stability for all peoples.

Defense Minister Addresses Army Day Ceremony

EA021036 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Excerpts] Our Armed Forces today are celebrating the 16th anniversary of Army Day. A ceremony held this morning at the military college was attended by Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, YSP Central Committee secretary general. Brother Colonel Salih 'Ubayd Ahmad, candidate member of the Political Bureau and defense minister, addressed those present. [passage omitted]

The brother defense minister hailed the honest internationalist support given by the friendly Soviet Union to our people, noting that the Soviet advisers and experts had made an abiding impression on the process of building and developing our Armed Forces, an impression testifying to the depth and solidity of the strategic internationalist alliance with the Soviet Union and its people, party, and Armed Forces.

Brother Major 'Abd al-Hadi Umar Bayyan, commander of the military college, also made a speech in which he reviewed the successes achieved by the college and the commanders and staff school in training the military cadres. He said preparations are in progress to transfer the college to a 3-year system in accordance with the requirement to provide the Armed Forces with a scientifically and militarily qualified cadre. [passage omitted]

Party CC Secretary 'Abdallah on Domestic Events

AU311513 Budapest NEPSZAVA in Hungarian 27 Aug 87 p 2

[Interview with Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee, by correspondent Imre Krajczar at party headquarters in Aden: "We Would Like Even Better Relations With Hungary — Interview With Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah Mohsin"; date not given]

[Text] Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah is better known under his nom-de-guerre. When he headed his country's mission in Budapest, the name on his business card also read Mohsin. Following the events of January 1986, he became Central Committee secretary. The Central Committee building was destroyed in the course of the civil war fighting, but soon after that a new party headquarters was built, thanks to the help provided by the socialist countries' communist and workers parties. This interview took place in this new headquarters, in the reception room of the Secretariat. There was no need for warm-up questions, since this interview was a continuation of another interview and background discussion in Budapest.

['Abdallah] The foreign policy of my country and my party has not changed in the past 1 and 1/2 years, at least as far as

principles are concerned. But something did change essentially and radically: The contradiction between our principled positions and our practical policy, a contradiction that misled both our friends and our enemies, has ceased.

[Krajczar] How would you characterize the former day-to-day foreign policy and the current one? What is the most important difference between them?

['Abdallah] In the civil war that was forced upon us we gained the upper hand, but what I am saying now is not the subsequent historical judgment of the winners, a judgment borne out only by victory. Before January 1986, we had already taken a stand against certain tactics and distortions. We objected to the fact that the old leadership completely and resolutely monopolized how socialism was represented to the representatives of the socialist countries and their leading parties, in addition to monopolizing the role of strengthening the allied relations. At the same time, we — the opposition forced into the background — were accused of trying to destroy and dishevel socialist contacts.

The leadership marked by the name of Muhammad Ali Nasir played a totally opposite role in the Arab world, both among the Islamic countries and in the arena of Western policy. In the Arab, Islamic, and Western arenas, this leadership attempted to prove that it represented real national determination and Arab patriotism as opposed to the so-called extremist groups, and it needed socialist slogans only to conceal its intentions. These easily identifiable tactics compromised our policy line in some people's eyes and also caused difficulties for our country, because ultimately these ambiguous declarations endangered the country's credibility and political capital.

By working hard we succeeded in overcoming the artificially maintained difficulties. Now we can already say that the misunderstandings have ceased. Our friends understood, accepted, and praised our position, and our enemies know with absolute certainty who we are and what we want.

[Krajczar] What do you want exactly?

['Abdallah] We want peace, security, foreign and domestic stability, and calm external conditions for the success of our internal construction work. We are striving for mutually advantageous relations based on sovereignty and equal rights, and we condemn the slogan and policy of exporting revolution. We want to make our ideals and goals attractive by achieving economic, cultural, and political development and by accelerating this development. We are demonstrating our responsibility for a calm atmosphere in the area by showing our readiness for cooperation. Nobody claims that this has been an easy and successful effort from the start.

[Krajczar] What are relations like between the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the countries that accepted Yemenis who emigrated after the events of January 1986?

['Abdallah] I would like to remind readers that we have built strategic relations with these countries over the course of time, and that the long-term elements of this cooperation continue to dominate our relations. This, of course, does not mean that we have completely avoided occasional differences of opinion. Relations between the two parts of our homeland, South and North Yemen, characterize well the complex and sometimes contradictory nature of these relations. The two different parts of our homeland are not developing in harmony with each other but we start from the premise that there are Yemenis living in both the South and the North. The fighters and refugees of revolutions and independence movements have often found shelter in the other part of our homeland, and this is also true of recent times when, following the events of January 1986, for example, a considerable number of cadres and typical people, as well as fighters and leaders, fled to the North. We regard them as Yemeni people too, and expect all of them to return. Of course, there will be different treatment for the responsible leaders and politicians (not more than 50) who were the planners and persons responsible for bringing about the bloody events. For the others, however, we guarantee them safety and an opportunity to readjust. And that means, among other things, that they will not have to "answer" for the period they were acting in the civil war; they will be able to go back to the jobs they are trained for; and in all this keep their old wages! If someone was a minister before January 1986, he will now receive a minister's wages, no matter what job he takes, provided it is, as I have mentioned before, a job in accordance with his qualifications.

Nobody says that, as a result of our measures, there has been a rush of people coming back, but quite a few have already returned to us. I think this process was facilitated by the visit by our party general secretary, Comrade Bied, to North Yemen. The summit held in Sanaa in July this year has created a positive atmosphere and the efforts aimed at reuniting our country could again come to the forefront.

[Krajczar] What can be done to reunite the really united "Yemeni homeland" of thousands of years ago? The social order in the two countries is extremely different and the social habits are also different.

['Abdallah] First of all, we have to restore security and confidence. We have to reach the point at which the two countries — separately for the time being — can first of all concentrate on themselves, on raising the standard of living, and on their tranquil development. Independence and security, as well as the elimination of all kinds of foreign intervention are our essential interests. Therefore, we have common points. I repeat that the atmosphere has perceptibly improved. This also has a favorable effect on the negotiations on establishing a common constitution for the united country. We are expecting a lot from the new constitution. This will also determine state borders; for the time being, however, issues concerning border problems and the durability and legitimacy of the borders established by the colonial powers will receive less attention. Besides, at present we are conducting border talks with only one country, the Sultanate of Oman. I can say that there is no tension due to border disputes today, although the bilateral mixed committees negotiating the issue have not yet succeeded in concluding even a draft agreement.

[Krajczar] How would you characterize and evaluate relations between South Yemen and the East European socialist countries, with Hungary among them?

['Abdallah] Here we are talking about a system of relations based on firm pillars and regulated by friendship agreements and concrete partial agreements. Aden has such relations with the Soviet Union, Hungary, the CSSR, the GDR, Bulgaria, and several other countries. We can conclude on both sides that the relations do not depend on individuals or economic advantages. We are striving to make our relations total, relations that affect the party, the state, the various organizations, the entire life of the people, and all areas of life. The socialist countries, primarily the Soviet Union, made considerable efforts to avoid all kinds of foreign intervention at the time of the bloody civil war events. We are courageously making use of the socialist countries' experiences and highly appreciate the lessons of Hungary's development. We think that there are still many possibilities for developing our cooperation. We have to search for new mechanisms of cooperation that could augment the content of the already signed agreements and contracts.

SAUDI ARABIA

Iraqi Delegation Arrives in Jeddah 1 Sep

LD011251 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Excerpts] 'Issat Ibrahim, Iraqi RCC deputy chairman, arrived in Jeddah at noon today on a visit to the Kingdom. [passage omitted]

'Issat Ibrahim is accompanied by a delegation comprising Sa'dun Shakir, RCC member; Samir Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahhab, minister of interior [title as heard]; Nur Ismail, under secretary at the Iraqi Foreign Ministry; and a number of Iraqi officials.

Fahd Given Saddam Husayn Note

LD011614 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1519 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Jeddah, 1 Sep (SPA) — King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques — may God protect him — received at Al-Salam Palace this afternoon 'Issat Ibrahim, RCC deputy chairman, who conveyed to him a message from his brother, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, concerning bilateral relations and the current regional situation.

The audience was attended by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard; His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister; Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Khuwaytir, minister of education, acting minister of higher education, and accompanying minister; and Tirad al-Harithi, the ambassador of the custodian of the two holy mosques to Iraq.

The audience was also attended, on the Iraqi side, by Sa'dun Shakir, Iraqi RCC member; Samir Muhammad 'Abd al-Wahhab, interior minister [title as received]; Nuri al-Wis [name as received], Foreign Ministry under secretary; 'Abd al-Malik al-Yasin, Iraqi ambassador to the Kingdom; and a number of officials.

Ibrahim Meets Crown Prince

LD021341 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Excerpt] His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard, this afternoon met with His Excellency 'Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of the Iraqi RCC at the latter's residence in Jeddah. SPA has learned that during the meeting bilateral relations, the situation in the Gulf, and issues of interest to both the Arab and Islamic worlds were discussed. [passage omitted]

Kuwaiti Minister of State Al-'Usaymi Arrives

LD021202 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1055 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] Jeddah, 2 Sep (SPA) — Saud al-'Usaymi, Kuwaiti minister of state for foreign affairs, arrived in Jeddah this morning on a visit to the Kingdom. He was welcomed at the airport by Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud, minister of state and member of the Council of Ministers; Salim Sunbul, director of the Foreign Ministry and protocol branch in the western region; and a delegate from the Royal Protocol Office.

In a statement to SPA, the Kuwaiti minister of state said that his visit to the Kingdom is in the context of consultations and an exchange of views between leaderships of both countries on situations and issues concerning the Gulf region in particular and the Arab region in general.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Sharjah Ruler Inspects Damage to Cultural Center

JN021226 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Excerpts] His Highness Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, Supreme Council member and ruler of Sharjah, this morning inspected the Cultural Center building in Al-Shariqah. He was received by Shaykh Ahmad ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, head of the Culture and Information Department in Al-Shariqah. His highness was acquainted with the circumstances of the incident and the results of the sinful attempt to burn it last night. His highness was briefed by Center officials on the details of the incident, the losses which resulted, and the latest results of the investigations to apprehend the culprit.

His highness ordered speedy action to repair the damage to certain parts of the Center as a result of the incident so it will be ready in time for the opening of the Arab Association for the Blind camp on 12 September. [passage omitted]

Shaykh Ahmad ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi said work will continue on schedule and will not stop because of the incident. He affirmed that the work in the Center's library will continue as usual. The library will open to readers daily from 0800. The

library was not affected by the damage to the Center, he said. He also noted that Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi ordered that the libraries in Khawr Fakkan and Kalbah be provided with books and reference works so they can be opened this year and students can make use of them during the current scholastic year.

Gulf War Combat Operations, Air Strikes Continue

Panamanian Tanker Hit 31 Aug

JN011337 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1235 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] London, 1 Sep (INA) — The British Lloyds insurance company today affirmed that an oil tanker was struck by an Iraqi missile near the Iranian coast last night.

Lloyds informed the INA bureau in London a short while ago that Iraqi fighter jets yesterday struck a Panamanian oil tanker, the *Rodhos* [name as received], while it was sailing in an area defined by latitude 29 degrees, 50 minutes north and longitude 50 degrees, 11 minutes in the Arab Gulf. Lloyds affirmed that the explosion left a hole in the tanker.

Lloyds pointed out that tanker *Rodhos* is operated by the Tsakos [name as received] shipping company. It weighs 17.805 tonnes and was built in 1971.

An Iraq military statement said today that Iraqi aircraft raided two large maritime targets near the Iranian coast at midnight last night, scoring accurate and effective hits. They then returned safely to base.

4th 'Maritime Target' Struck

JN011501 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1445 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Statement issued by military spokesman on 1 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Since midnight and during today, our heroic Air Force carried out a series of heroic combat missions. As part of this series, our daring aircraft dealt an accurate and effective blow to a fourth large maritime target at 1605 [1205 GMT] today. After carrying out the mission, our aircraft returned safely to base, in God's care.

[Dated] 1 September 1987

Communique No 2,806 Issued

JN011708 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1605 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Communique No 2,806 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 1 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces have continued their sacred struggle in defense of Iraq and its people and are inflicting new losses on the aggressors. A roundup of activities for last night and today follows:

1. Further to our Communique No 2,805 issued today, and since midnight and during today, our giant Air Force carried out a series of heroic missions against enemy oil supplies and economic targets that are used for aggressive purposes. The following was achieved in addition to what was mentioned in Communique No 2,805:

A. An accurate, effective blow was dealt to a third maritime target near the Iranian coast at 1220 [0820 GMT] today.

B. An accurate, effective blow was dealt to a fourth large maritime target near the Iranian coast at 1605 [1205 GMT] today.

C. Today, our aircraft launched a series of successful raids on enemy positions and assembly points in all areas of operations. They sent the Khomeyniite scoundrels to their death and inflicted heavy losses on their weapons and equipment. Our aircraft carried out 139 combat missions to accomplish the tasks mentioned in this communique and in Communique No 2,805. After carrying out their duties, our aircraft all returned safely to base, in God's care.

2. Our daring helicopters carried out a series of raids against enemy units in the areas of operations, inflicting losses on the Zionist Khomeyniites' scoundrels, hardware, and weapons with 32 combat sorties. Our helicopters then returned safely to base, in God's care and protection.

3. In the I Army Corps northern sector, five antiaircraft guns were set on fire and destroyed, a number of enemy personnel were killed, one vehicle was destroyed, and two ammunition dumps were detonated.

4. In the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah, six enemy infantry positions and two weapons emplacements were destroyed, two scoundrels were killed, and two ammunition dumps were blown up.

5. In the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan, two enemy personnel were killed and one ammunition dump was destroyed. In the VI Army Corps sector east of Tigris, one enemy personnel was killed and two others were wounded.

6. Several Iranian military personnel sought refuge with our forward units and were then safely evacuated to the rear.

7. The Iranian regime committed a new crime against our defenseless people in strictly residential areas as an expression of that regime's impasse on the political, military, and economic levels. Using long-range artillery, that regime shelled the steadfast, brave city of Basra. As a result, 3 civilians, including 2 women, were martyred; 47 civilians, including 11 women and 5 children, were wounded; and houses and civilian property were damaged. The Iranian regime should know it is mistaken if it believes, as it did in the past, that if it opens the battle of cities it can emerge from the deadlock or mix the cards. As past experiences have proven, we can simply order 100 aircraft or more to strike at Iranian cities. We can repeat these strikes several times a day if the Iranian regime continues its reckless behavior. Paradise to our martyrs and a swift recovery to our wounded.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 1 September 1987

Cypriot Tanker Struck 1 Sep

JN012028 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2003 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] London, 1 Sep (INA) — The British Lloyds insurance company said here today that a Cypriot oil tanker named *Star Ray* was hit by an Iraqi missile while it was on a shuttle trip between the Iranian Khark and Larak Islands today.

Lloyds informed the INA bureau in London a short while ago that one of the Cypriot tanker's two boilers was hit and that a fire started on the tanker after it left Khark Island loaded with crude oil.

Lloyds pointed out that the 99,011-tonne *Star Ray* is operated by the "Kaba" [named as received] shipping company, which is headquartered in London.

An Iraqi military communique announced earlier today that Iraqi warplanes dealt blows to four maritime targets near the Iranian coast today.

'Maritime Target' Struck 2 Sep

JN020538 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0528 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Statement issued by military spokesman on 2 September 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our heroic Air Force will continue to destroy the vital targets associated with the aggressive war effort and to cut off oil supplies. With God's care, an accurate, effective blow was dealt to a large maritime target near the Iranian coast at 0730 [0330 GMT] today. After carrying out their mission, our aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God.

[Dated] 2 September 1987

Iran Continues Shelling Basra

JN020740 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0715 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] Basra, 2 Sep (INA) — The Iranian enemy has resumed its brutal shelling of residential areas in the Al-Basrah Governorate, southern Iraq, using long-range artillery. An INA correspondent stated that the shelling continues and has included most of the residential areas in the city of Basra.

Earlier, an Iraqi military spokesman warned the Iranian regime against continuing its shelling of Iraqi cities. The spokesman pointed out that Iraq can devote 100 aircraft to strike at Iranian cities several times a day if the Iranian regime continues with its abnormal action.

The INA correspondent added that the Iranian artillery shelling resulted in the martyrdom of 8 citizens, including a child, and the wounding of 36 others, including 5 women and 9 children.

Communique No 2,807 Issued

JN021249 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1142 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Communique No 2,807 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 2 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Victory comes from God. O glorious citizens, in order to make the agent, backward, and aggressive Iranian regime know that we will never allow it to continue aggression against our country and citizens and to make it pay a heavy price for its aggression in terms of its knaves, economic resources, vital installations, oil resources, and everything that sustains its war effort, our great Air Force has continued to destroy the pillars and centers of aggression. Today dozens of our daring aircraft penetrated Iranian airspace to carry out the following heroic missions:

1. At 1400 [1000 GMT] today, a series of destructive strikes were dealt to the Bahrgan oil fields and installations, setting them ablaze.

2. At the same time, a number of our planes were directing their blows at the war engineering equipment factory in Arak, destroying their targets.

3. At the same time, a number of our planes were directing a destructive blow to the Arak electric power station.

4. At the same time, a number of our planes were directing a destructive blow to the electric power station in (Kanjwan), south of Hamadan.

5. At the same time, a number of our aircraft were dealing violent blows to the Agha Jari oil fields, setting their targets ablaze.

6. At 1415, our planes directed an effective, accurate blow to a large maritime target near the Iranian coast.

7. Earlier, a number of our aircraft directed an effective, accurate blow to a large maritime target off the Iranian coast at 0730 this morning.

Having implemented all these missions, all of our aircraft then returned to their bases in the homeland, safe and triumphant, in God's care.

We affirm to the international public opinion that these deterent actions are the indispensable, legitimate, and practical answer to the Iranian regime's rejection of the UN Security Council's peace resolution No 598. It is also an answer to this regime's aggression against our borders and citizens. Unless the Iranian regime accepts this resolution as an indivisible unit and without any maneuvering, stalling, delay, confusion, and procrastination, our blows will continue — and the only losers will eventually be the Iranian war-mongering rulers who are launching this war at the expense of their people's basic rights and at the expense of security and stability in this region and the world.

Blessed is our Air Force — commanders, pilots, officers, and men for its brave deeds. From God we derive assistance and support.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 2 September 1987

Spokesman Responds to Iranian Threats to Cities

JN011421 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1335 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 1 Sep (INA) — In response to the stupid Iranian regime's threats to strike at residential areas, a military spokesman made the following statement to INA:

We are aware of every word in the statement we made yesterday. Continuing aggression against strictly residential areas means that tens, in fact, hundreds of aircraft will fly to demolish the Iranian cities. We will also use missiles and artillery from Iraq's superior arsenal. We will do so decisively and overwhelmingly.

The Iraqi spokesman stated: The Iranian rulers must realize this fact before they find themselves in an impasse that they cannot endure. The only way for the Iranian rulers to save their country from catastrophe is to accept peace in accordance with God's and the international community's will. They must also stop trodding the path which brought catastrophes to Iran, for this path will achieve nothing for them.

Yesterday, the Iraqi military spokesman issued a statement. We will repeat it below so that the Iranian rulers will read it throughly before it is too late. The Iranian rulers should know that Iraq's real power is one thing and that the many ridiculous statements which the Iranian officials compete to make as if they are in kindergarten is something else. [passage on 31 August statement omitted]

Official Documentation of 'Aziz Message Requested

JN010600 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1925 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] Tunis, 31 Aug (INA) — Today Iraq requested that the Arab League list the message from Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, to Javier Perez de Cuellar, UN secretary general, as an official Arab League document to be added to the documents on the continued Iranian aggression against Iraq.

The message, delivered by Taha Yasin, Iraq's representative to the Arab Leauge, stresses Iraq's right to reply to the Iranian regime for its failure to adhere to UN Security Council Resolution No 598, which calls for ending the Iraq-Iran war. Iraq also requested that the Arab League consider Tariq 'Aziz's comments on the Iranian regime's stand on this resolution as an official Arab League document.

Earlier today, Iraq's permanent Arab League representative delivered Tariq 'Aziz's message and his comments concerning the Iranian regime's stand on the UN resolution to the PLO and to the Tunisian Foreign Ministry to acquaint them with their contents.

Envoy to UK Summoned Over New Gulf Strikes

LD011351 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 1314 GMT 1 Sep 87

[By Michael Prescott, *Press Association* lobby correspondent]

[Text] Iraq's top diplomat in Britain was summoned to the Foreign Office today and told his country's renewed attacks on Iranian offshore oil targets would increase tension in the Gulf and hamper United Nations attempts to secure a ceasefire.

Deputy Under-Secretary Mr Alan Munro told charge d'affaires Mr 'Abd al-Sa'id that the government urged Iraq not to continue its attacks in the Gulf.

A Foreign Office spokesman said the meeting lasted 30 minutes. He would not comment on the atmosphere during the meeting, but the Foreign Office account makes clear it was tense.

Iraq is sending a new ambassador to Britain, until his arrival Mr Sa'id is the top Iraqi official in London.

Mr Sa'id's attention was drawn to a weekend statement by Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe, in which he expressed "dismay" at renewed Iraqi attacks — a sign that the fresh Iraqi hostilities came as a surprise to the British Government.

The Foreign Office spokesman said Mr Sa'id was told: "The British Government accordingly now urged Iraq in the strongest terms to refrain from military action which would serve only to escalate the hostilities and jeopardise diplomatic action aimed at bringing about a negotiated solution to the conflict."

According to the Foreign Office, Mr Sa'id replied that Iraq accepted the terms of UN Security Council Resolution 598 — the motion which demands a Gulf war ceasefire.

Mr Munro replied that Iraq's actions did not seem in keeping with this view, and said: "Iraqi actions should meet their words."

The Foreign Office also said today that top representatives from two Gulf nations are to visit Britain.

The crown prince of Bahrain will be in London between September 14 and 17. He will hold talks with the prime minister, the foreign secretary and the Minister for Defence Procurement Lord Trefgarne, and will also meet the Prince of Wales.

The Foreign Office stressed that this visit had not been arranged because of the Gulf situation. But the subject of the Gulf is bound to crop up in talks between British politicians and the crown prince.

The Foreign Office would not comment when asked whether there was a possibility of British minesweepers heading for the Gulf being able to use Bahrain as a base.

The Kuwaiti foreign minister is also expected in London on September 14 for a two-day private visit, the Foreign Office confirmed.

His agenda has not been set, but the Foreign Office did not rule out talks with ministers.

Zambian Prime Minister Makes Statement, Departs

JN011401 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Zambian Prime Minister Kebby Musokotwane and the delegation accompanying him departed Baghdad today following a 1-week visit to Iraq. The Zambian prime minister and his delegation were accorded an official sendoff by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, and a number of ministers.

In a predeparture statement to INA, the Zambian prime minister said: The positive results of our visit affirm the depth and strength of the existing relations between our countries. They also embody the certain desire of the two countries' leaderships and people to continue to develop this relationship.

On the ongoing efforts to stop the Iraq-Iran war, the Zambian prime minister called on the international community to shoulder its responsibilities for ending this conflict, take the necessary steps to implement Security Council Resolution No 598, and impose sanctions on the party rejecting peace. He highly praised Iraq's peaceful stands and its certain, earnest desire for peace stemming from its concern for a realization of its role to achieve regional peace and security.

Concerning his impressions during his visit to Iraq following 7 years of war, the Zambian prime minister stated: Anyone who sees Iraq cannot believe that it is a country at war. Everything indicates that the march of construction, development, and progress has not stopped. What I saw in Baghdad, Babylon, and other areas affirms the greatness of this people and genuineness of their leadership, he said.

IAI Workers Demonstrate in Front of U.S. Embassy

TA020816 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] Several hundred Israeli Aircraft Industries [IAI] workers are demonstrating in front of the Finance Ministry in Jerusalem, demanding that Minister Nisim come out to them. They say that Nisim's talk of alternatives to the Lavi is a ruse, and they are calling on him to resign. Our correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that another 200 workers are marching toward the Western Wall to demonstrate there.

In Tel Aviv, IAI workers are demonstrating in front of the Labor Party building and the U.S. and Canadian Embassies.

Nisim Urges 'Immediate Action' on Lavi Cut

TA011533 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Finance Minister Moshe Nisim says that a government with self-respect cannot discuss the Lavi decision again. The decision that was made is binding, Nisim says, and immediate action to implement it should be taken. In a talk with our correspondent in the course of a visit to Galilee, the finance minister rejected the criticism leveled at him by Likud members. He said that the attempts to convince him to change his mind are mere talk. He emphasized that his considerations regarding the Lavi were and have remained of an economic and security nature.

Nisim, Shultz To Meet on Lavi 'Next Week'

TA020731 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] Finance Minister Moshe Nisim will meet with Secretary of Stage George Shultz and other administration officials in Washington next week to discuss the Lavi issue. Among other things to be examined will be the possibility that Israel Aircraft Industries will participate in the development of the F-16 and will produce parts of it.

Our economic affairs correspondent Me'ir Einstein notes that Minister Nisim's trip to Washington was already scheduled before the decision on the Lavi was made. Minister Nisim will also visit Canada, and will be abroad for a total of 12 days.

U.S. Orders Drone; Bid Called Test of Pentagon

TA011926 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] The U.S. Navy will be outfitting its aircraft with a pilotless plane nicknamed Shimshon, manufactured by Israel Military Industries. The U.S. Navy today issued an order for the supply of 2,600 pilotless planes of this type for its units. Our correspondent Hanan 'Azran provides additional details:

The deal is spread over a number of years and may amount to over $100 million, or some $50 million a year. The Shimshon is actually a deception device, a kind of pilotless plane launched from a jet fighter to disrupt the enemy's anti-aircraft and radar systems. According to foreign sources, Israel used the Shimshon during the Peace for Galilee Operation when it attacked the Syrian Air Force and anti-aircraft batteries with unprecedented success. Again, according to foreign sources, the Shimshon was launched from Phantom jets in those attacks. Each plane costs some $50,000 and at this point the United States needs 2,600 units, according to data appearing in the tenders known as CBD [acronym in English], which were issued by the U.S. Navy. The pilotless plane was developed by Israel Military Industries in accordance with the Israeli Air Force's specifications and a joint agreement with the U.S. firm, (Brownswing).

The Shimshon was first unveiled in the United States at the U.S. Navy fair held last April. In the past, the U.S. Navy purchased several dozen such pilotless planes to examine whether the plane was compatible with the Navy's needs. The decision to continue outfitting the U.S. Navy with Shimshon pilotless planes coincides closely with the cancellation of the Lavi project. The fact that this contract was given to Israel Military Industries will now be a test of the Pentagon's willingness to come to the aid of Israel's defense exports at a time when we are discussing the scrapping of the Lavi project.

PRC, Indian, USSR Radio Scientists Want Cooperation

TA310727 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 31 Aug 87 p 2

[Report by science and health reporter Judy Siegel]

[Excerpt] The deputy communications minister of the People's Republic of China, and top radio scientists from the Soviet Union and India, have told *The Jerusalem Post* that they hope there will be more bilateral scientific exchanges between their countries and Israel.

They were interviewed during a reception held last night at Jerusalem Mishkenot Sha'ananim by Communications Minister Gad Ya'aqobi in honour of the 22nd triennial conference of the International Scientific Radio Union (URSI).

Some 700 scientists, including 150 Israelis, attended the seven-day conference at the Tel Aviv Hilton. Ya'aqobi told *The Jerusalem Post* that the presence of representatives of countries that have no diplomatic relations with Israel, including Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary, as well as the USSR, India and China, was a "diplomatic as well as professional achievement."

The URSI, said Ya'aqobi, is tops in the field of telecommunications and radio sciences, and many of the members of the URSI council who attended the conference here are advisers to their respective governments.

Feng, of Beijing, who could not give his full name, said that China, like other developing countries, is happy to send scientists to such conferences because "We have a lot to learn. We are just at the beginning of an open policy regarding science." The deputy communications minister added that he would like to see Israeli and Chinese scientists exchange visits. [passage omitted]

Jordan Aided in Potassium Production in Dead Sea

TA020943 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 2 Sep 87 p 1

[Report by military correspondent Re'uven Pedatzur]

[Text] Israeli and Jordanian engineers have been meeting recently to talk about the issue of potassium production in the Dead Sea area.

The Israeli engineers are helping their Jordanian counterparts produce potassium from the Jordanian part of the Dead Sea with the use of a new Israeli method that reduces the costs significantly.

The meeting between the two sides is being held on the Jordanian border. The Israelis arrive there via a special road connecting Israel and Jordan. This road was paved on the Dead Sea's "inlet."

Press Comments on Peres Meeting With Palestinians

AL-NAHAR Terms Contacts 'Positive'

TA311414 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic 28 Aug 87 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "So That These Meetings Shall Become Praiseworthy"]

[Excerpts] The process of holding contacts and consultations with Palestinian notables in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip can be considered a positive step if seen as a first step to be followed by further ones leading to the aspired goal: the achievement of a just solution based on legitimate Palestinian rights.

It is from this premise that one should view yesterday's meeting between Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres and a group of Palestinian notables. This is not the first such meeting nor will it be the last, even if we were to content ourselves with the modest goal Peres set for this or similar meetings: merely to "exchange views and get acquainted with mutual viewpoints."

Perhaps the message that Peres desired to convey to those at the meeting was that he wants a strong Palestinian voice inside the territories to call for movements toward peace and the international conference, indicating that the Palestinians have opted for real peace, so that this might boost his position in the eyes of the Israeli public.

The meeting itself is important, but the Palestinian viewpoints raised during this meeting and those that preceded it should gain the recognition they deserve. Affairs should not be confirmed to aspects of form and protocol and attempts to give Israeli, Arab, and international public opinion the false impression that the Israeli Government listens to the views of Palestinian notables, when it is merely trying to avoid rebuke — no more, no less.

The ideas and views raised by the different notables share a common denominator, despite their diversity. There is insistence on convening an international conference with the participation of all parties concerned, including the Palestinians. There is also a consensus on the strategy of peace through an international conference. Most important, all the notables demanded an end to Israeli occupation and its practices as a step linked to the achievement of peace. Meanwhile, Israel should prove through daily acts its "goodwill" toward residents of the occupied areas. [passage omitted]

A correct start and a wise beginning for a serious movement toward the achievement of peace will not be realized unless the Israeli Government actually listens to the ideas, views, and aspirations of Palestinians in the occupied territories. Israel must respect those views and not ignore them. This is in keeping with the interests of all sides, not excluding the Israeli side, naturally.

AL-SHA'B Says Talk 'Doomed'

TA311251 Jerusalem AL-SHA'B in Arabic 28 Aug 87 p 1

[Editorial: "Peres and the Search for Alternatives"]

[Text] Once in a while Israeli Foreign Minister Shi'mon Peres tries to hold meetings with some Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in an attempt to explore the possibility of marketing his "dramatic" plans, projects, and steps, which as a whole, are aimed at ignoring the PLO in preparation to entering into direct negotiations that would be a substitute for the framework of the proposed international conference called for by the United Nations, the convocation of which has been stressed by the international community in more than one statement or occasion.

By these steps, Peres is definitely taking the same path toward which the masses of our people have already adopted a clear and explicit stand, forcing them to remain in the very square from which they were launched.

Yesterday, in the framework of his attempt to explore whether it is possible to make progress toward again raising his notorious "peaceful" initiative, Peres met with some Palestinians and repeated to them the same broken record containing his position, that of his party, and of his government, which rejects dealing with the PLO or accepting its participation in the framework of an international peace conference in the Middle East. This is the very conference that Tel Aviv and Washington are trying to drain of aims and content through presenting ideas that run counter to the will of the international community.

Despite the fact that Peres has tried and continues to try and explore the possibility of finding an alternative to the PLO, he is fully aware that his attempt will be doomed to definite failure because it endeavors to bypass a difficult entity that Peres and others know is not divisible.

What is noteworthy in Peres' meeting with some Palestinians yesterday is that Peres wants to choose a Palestinian representation that is prepackaged in his pocket, not the one wanted by the Palestinian masses who have reiterated their commitment to the legitimate leadership and who have refused to consider any initiative that tries to bypass their legitimate and sole representative, the PLO.

If Peres rejects the presence of the PLO in the international peace conference in the Middle East, repeats the same Jordanian conditions that have already been rejected by the masses of our people, calls for Palestinian participation that he brings out of his pocket, and wants direct bilateral talks, he thus not only expresses a personal stand, but utterly rejects any peaceful settlement bound to give the Palestinians their rights and force Israel to withdraw from the occupied Arab lands.

Amid all this, some Palestinians try to dance to the very tunes played by Peres. They are moving counter to the will of the masses and have announced their readiness to play an alternative role to that of the PLO. Soon enough these people will find themselves isolated because they have no effect on the common Palestinian who has always affirmed his commitment to his legitimate leadership.

Economic Statistics for Past 18 Months Released

TA311303 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 31 Aug 87 p 7

[Excerpts] Real wages rose a full one-third in the last 18 months, figures released yesterday by the Central Bureau of Statistics showed. The unprecedented rise in salaries since the last quarter of 1985 came after the 25 per cent wage erosion that came in the wake of the 1985 economic stabilization. [passage omitted]

In addition to the increase in the pre-tax real wages, workers, especially those in the upper-income brackets, benefited from the reduction in tax rates and the widening of income tax brackets. This put the overall increase in net wages since December 1985 at 40 per cent.

Real wages rose 10.4 per cent in the second quarter of the year from the previous three months, the bureau figures showed, while the average gross wage stood at NIS [new Israeli shekels] 1,400 for the second quarter of the year.

The figures released yesterday also showed that the average real wage for the first half of 1987 was 7.6 per cent higher than in thesame period last year and 3.8 per cent higher than in the first half of 1985. Pre-tax real wages for the second quarter of the year were 10.3 per cent higher than in April-June 1986.

Real wages in industry for the second quarter were 6.7 per cent higher than in the same period last year, while in the public services they went up 7.7 per cent. In the transportation, construction and personal-services sector, the figures went up by 19-20 per cent, while in the trade and services sector it rose 16 per cent.

West Bank 'Unprecedented' Economic Growth Noted

TA011003 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 1 Sep 87 p 1

[Report by the economic correspondent in Jerusalem]

[Text] The West Bank economy has recently undergone unprecedented growth. This emerges from figures published by the Central Bureau of Statistics. The figures show that there is a rapid rate of growth in the gross product, savings, standard of living, investments, employment, and productivity. According to the figures, the gross product of the West Bank grew by an average of 9 percent during 1985 and 1986.

The sharp rise in the gross product reflects a record harvest of olives. But even without the olives there was 8 percent economic growth in 1985 and 1986. The standard of living went up by an average of 4 percent and simultaneously, investments went up by 15 percent. At the same time, there was an increase in savings made possible by an 11 percent rise in private income.

King Husayn Returns From Damascus 1 Sep

JN020516 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
0400 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn returned to Amman last night following a brief working visit to Syria during which he held talks with his brother His Excellency Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. The talks dealt with bilateral relations and cooperation and all aspects of the situation in the region and the Arab arena. His majesty was received at the airport by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the chief chamberlain, the commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, the chief of the royal household, the secretary general of the Royal Hashemite Court, and a number of senior officials.

His Majesty King Husayn was seen off at Damascus airport last night by His Excellency Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, Vice Presidents 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, the deputy prime ministers, the ministers, and 'Ali Khurays, the Jordanian ambassador in Damascus. Returning with his majesty were Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Royal Hashemite Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim, and Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah.

Reportage on Visit of FRG Economic Official Klein

Arrives in Amman

JN301926 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] This evening Hans Klein, FRG minister of economic cooperation, arrived in Amman on a 3-day official visit to Jordan. During the visit he will meet with His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Minister of Planning Tahir Kan'an, and other senior officials. He will also visit a number of economic projects and cultural sites.

Speaking to reporters uppon arrival, Klein said he is happy to be visiting Jordan and is looking forward to meeting Jordanian officials to explore the possibility of fostering economic ties between Jordan and the FRG and to discuss a number of political issues. Klein said his country believes Jordan is a key factor in any solution to the Mideast crisis. He noted His Majesty King Husayn's distinguished role in furthering peace efforts aimed at solving the crisis and called him a courageous, wise leader. Klein pointed out that his majesty has realized great achievements for Jordan in various spheres which have won his country a good name worldwide.

The FRG minister said the two countries will sign economic and trade cooperation agreements. He expressed the hope the future would see bilateral ties develop even further.

Minister of Planning Tahir Kan'an and the FRG ambassador and embassy staff were on hand to greet Klein at the airport. The minister is accompanied by a delegation comprising high-ranking officials of the FRG Ministry of Economic Cooperation and a large media delegation.

Meets Officials, Signs Accord

JN311203 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i received in his office this morning Hans Klein, FRG minister of economic cooperation, with Planning Minister Dr Tahir Kan'an in attendance. They reviewed the friendly ties between Jordan and the FRG and explored the possibility of fostering them, especially in the economic, trade, and technical spheres in the interests of the friendly countries. The prime minister pointed to Jordan's efforts on behalf of realizing just, comprehensive peace in the Middle East. Al-Rifa'i emphasized that a just, comprehensive peace will remain elusive short of an international conference to be attended by all parties to the dispute plus the five permanent members of the UN Security Council. For his part the FRG minister voiced his appreciation for Jordan's distinguished role in supporting peace efforts and ending regional tension.

The meeting was attended by the FRG ambassador in Amman and the directors of the Mideast departments in the FRG Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Economic Cooperation.

Meanwhile, the Jordanian side led by Minister of Planning Dr Tahir Kan'an and the FRG side led by Hans Klein held a meeting at the Ministry of Planning today to discuss ways to advance bilateral ties in the economic, trade, and developmental spheres. Dr Kan'an reviewed the general economic situation and the current development plan and its areas for achieving set objectives. Al-Rifa'i took note of the FRG Government's role in backing Jordan's development plans on a continual basis. He also reviewed the economic situation in the occupied land and the requirements for improving economic and social conditions there. During the meeting the sides signed a funding agreement between the Jordanian and FRG Governments under which Germany will extend a DM17 million loan to finance development projects for local councils.

Received by King Husayn

JN010603 Amman Television Service in English
1900 GMT 31 Aug 87

[Text] His majesty the king received this evening at Al-Nadwah Palace the visiting West German Minister of Economic Cooperation Mr Hans Klein. Among the topics discussed was economic cooperation between the two countries and ways to develop it further. The political situation in the Middle East was also dealt with. The visiting minister conveyed to his majesty greetings from West German leader Helmut Kohl. Attending part of the meeting were Her Majesty Queen Nur, Mrs Klein, and Minister of Planning Tahir Kan'an.

Further on Al-Masri Remarks Concerning Gulf War
JN01124! Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
1 Sep 87 pp 1, 3

[By Lamis K. Andoni]

[Text] Amman — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri Monday said that Jordan viewed Iraq's resumption of air raids against Iranian oil installations as a legitimate action since Tehran had "rejected" a United Nations resolution calling for a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war and had instead continued its land attacks against Iraqi territory. Speaking to local and foreign journalists during the weekly Monday press circle organised by Dr Musa Kilani, director-general of the Press and Publications Department, Mr al-Masri said Jordan considered Iran's response to U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 to have "amounted to complete rejection."

Tehran has not given a clear reply to the resolution which called for an immediate ceasefire in the seven-year- old war and for peaceful negotiations for settling the conflict. But Mr al-Masri said Iran's actions "clearly aimed at expanding the scope of the war" and reflected Tehran's rejection of the U.N. call.

"Consequently, and as long as Iran continues rejecting the Security Council resolution and does not cease its attacks on Iraqi territory, it is within Baghdad's right to resume its raids against Iranian ports," he said. Baghdad resumed its devastating raids against Iranian oil installations on Saturday after 45-day lull.

In Mr al-Masri's view, Baghdad's end of its informal truce, which followed the Iraqi government's announcement that it would abide by the Security Council resolution if Iran did likewise, did not represent "a resumption of the tanker war."

"Iraq is hitting the Iranian ports and not oil tankers offshore," he said.

Both the U.S. and Britain have criticised Iraq's resumption of its air raids. A senior U.S. official described the Iraqi actions as "understandable...though nevertheless deplorable."

Mr al-Masri said Jordan, though aware of the British and American points of view...,"[punctuation as published] completely understood the Iraqi position. In the foreign minister's view, Iraq's fresh air raids against Iran were also aimed at achieving two important political goals. He said Baghdad, growing impatient with Iran's intransigence, was trying to step up pressure on Tehran and to emphasise that the war itself remained the crux of the problem and that the current crisis over freedom of navigation in the Gulf was "only a byproduct of the war." Mr al-Masri said the main objective and priority for all parties should be a total end of the war.

Mr al-Masri was cautious in assessing prospects of an end to the war. On one hand he viewed positive indications reflected in Resolution 598, the unanimous endorsement by a meeting of Arab foreign ministers in Tunis last month of a resolution calling for the implementation of the U.N. resolution and the growing international pressure on Tehran to end the war. Mr al-Masri said the U.N. resolution reflected a consensus among the five big powers on the need for an immediate end of the bloody Gulf war. He noted that countries which have been on good terms with Iran were now advising the Iranian leaders to accept the resolution. He cited West Germany as an example.

"This international consensus and pressure have no doubt prompted Iran to reconsider its calculations, but have not been enough to force Tehran to stop the war," Mr al- Masri remarked. He also noted with disappointment that the prevailing Arab divisions and the lack of a firm and unified Arab stand in support of Iraq "constituted the most serious obstacle" in efforts to end the war.

Mr al-Masri said the Tunis declaration of Arab foreign ministers which gave Iran until Sept. 20 to accept a ceasefire in the war or possible severance of Arab relations with Tehran constituted "substantial and significant progress" which could lead to a firmer Arab stand.

In Mr al-Masri's view, the recent events, particularly the July 31 riots in Mecca and Iran's call for the fall of the Saudi regime and last year's attempt on the life of the Kuwaiti amir, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, have proved to many Arabs that "Iraq was not the only target of Iranian aggression... and that all the other Gulf governments are facing the same threat." He said that this realisation had helped in making Arab countries step up their efforts to stop the war.

He also expressed hope that an Arab summit, even if it was only an extraordinary one, would be convened soon. "We have certainly discussed that in Tunis but this time if such a summit is convened there should be decisive resolutions," he said. "The situation (in the Arab World) is too dangerous and we cannot tolerate indecisiveness any longer... decisiveness is urgently needed to face the situation," he warned. The foreign minister, who begins an official visit to China today, at the head of an Arab League delegation, said the delegation was seeking international action to enforce the Security Council resolution. The seven-member Arab League team is scheduled to visit all the five permament member states of the Security Council.

Asked about prospects for an arms embargo on Iran if it did not accept Resolution 598, Mr al-Masri said, "The prospects are not bad."

"The U.N. resolution has certainly made it more difficult, and more expensive, for Iran to purchase arms, but it still finds ways to get them," he said. However, Mr al-Masri said he knew that international and Arab resolutions, despite their importance, were not enough to stop the war. "A political decision in the capitals (of the belligerents) should be reached to put an end to the war," he said. Throughout his informal meeting with the press on Monday, Mr . al-Masri repeatedly expressed Jordan's fears that the increase in the superpowers' military presence in the Gulf coupled with the continuation of the war would eventually lead to superpower polarisation and consequent confrontation in the region.

Explaining Jordan's fears, Mr al-Masri made a detailed assessment of the situation in the Gulf. He said the increased presence of the U.S. Navy in the region reflected an alarming

and increasing competition between the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

"The Soviet Union has been trying to create a role for itself in the Gulf just like it has asserted a role in the Middle East peace process, and the Americans are resenting it," he said. "This is what is happening in the Gulf. Everything that goes on there should be seen under this heading." He said it did not mean that the Americans had precipitated such a situation because it was initially compelled to increase its presence when it was asked by Kuwait to protect oil tankers which were being hit by Iran. "But the sequence of events had certainly led to the increase of superpower competition... and what we fear most is that it could lead to superpower confrontation," Mr al-Masri said. But the worst part of the ongoing superpower competition, according to Mr al-Masri, is that Tehran is manipulating the situation to serve its purposes and goals.

"Iran is intelligently using (the situation) for its own purposes," he said. "We should not accept such blackmail... we hope that the superpowers will understand that... and that all efforts would be focused on putting an end to the war and eliminating the real source of the crisis," he said.

Asked about Jordan's stand towards the American intervention in the Gulf and the increasing U.S. military presence there, Mr. al-Masri said: "Jordan's stand is that the naval fleets (of the superpowers) should be kept away from the region. Yet, as things stand now, there is a justification for their presence."

"We would welcome any settlement that would lead to the withdrawal of these fleets from the area but we need an alternative that will guarantee a halt to Iranian attacks on oil tankers."

"The only real alternative is putting an end to the war," he said.

Asked if the Arab Gulf states could find themselves under pressure to grant more military facilities to the U.S. and consequently get caught in a confrontation, Mr. al-Masri said: "We have certainly discussed this prospect during the Tunis meeting... this is possible... but we hope that things would not reach that point."

"Yet, I cannot put the blame on the Arab Gulf countries (for seeking superpower help), but I blame Arab governments for failing to achieve an effective, firm, unified and a practical Arab stand. (This failure) has led to the present dangerous situation," he said.

The foreign minister said Jordan was concerned that the increasing superpower rivalry and possible polarisation could hamper efforts to convene an international peace conference to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict. He agreed that the Gulf crisis had shifted world attention from the Palestinian problem "but efforts are continuing on all levels to convene an international peace conference."

He pointed out that the stalemate in Arab-Israeli peace efforts was not caused by the Gulf crisis but by the fact that Israel had not endorsed the idea.

Mr al-Masri said that peace efforts had not reached a dead end. "The peace process would reach a dead end if the scheduled meeting between the Soviet and American foreign ministers failed to produce an agreement on the principles, the modalities and other issues related to the holding of the (proposed) international conference," he said.

He said Jordan hoped that the Sept. 15-16 meeting between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze would result in a firm American endorsement of the principle of the international conference and would bridge the difference between the two superpowers on the issue.

"The U.S. has not yet endorsed the principle of an international conference," he said.

Asked if he thought there would be a change in the Soviet position, the foreign minister said: "I do not think so... why should we want a change in the Soviet position?"

Commenting on the recent Israeli cabinet decision to start negotiations with a Canadian firm to dig water wells near the occupied West Bank town of Bethlehem, Mr al-Masri implied that Jordan was surprised by the decision. "Our efforts are concentrated on the American administration to apply pressure on Israel to stop the project," he said.

Lifting of Israeli Ban on West Bank Exports Hailed
JN290825 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
29 Aug 87 p 3

[By Rana Sabbagh]

[Excerpt] Amman — Jordan said Friday [28 August] it sees an Israeli decision to lift a ban on export of produce from the West Bank and Gaza Strip to the European Community (EC) as a positive move since it would help the economy of Palestinians living in the occupied territories. "We support any step that will further enhance the possibilities of opening up direct marketing outlets for their (farmers of the occupied territories) agricultural products," said Marwan Dudin, minister of occupied territories affairs. Israel had, in the past, insisted that exports, mainly of citrus from the coastal strip of Gaza and the West Bank, be exported to the EC and other countries through Jordan or via the Agricultural Marketing Company of Israel (AGRESCO), which controls prices, quality, and delivery schedules.

The Israeli decision, announced on Thursday, followed a meeting between Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and seven Palestinian leaders and notables from the occupied West Bank.

According to a *Reuter* dispatch, Israel has agreed to allow such exports via a company to be established in the occupied territories. The Jordanian government supports any step that allows the Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza Strip to get "some of their surplus directly over the Mediterranean," without having to transport it through Jordan's port of Aqaba or the airport," [quotation marks as published] Mr. Dudin told the *Jordan Times* on Friday. "They will be able to send their products through

themselves — direct deals with the EC — and not to get them over there through Israeli commission agents," said the minister. Mr. Dudin's remarks reflected comment made earlier by the minister of agriculture, Marwan al-Humud, and other senior officials, who said such a step was welcomed by Jordan since it would also help better the economic conditions of the Palestinians living under occupation.

Farmers of the West Bank and Gaza Strip are facing serious marketing problems because of surplus production coupled with a low demand for their products. They also complain that the Israeli marketing company is paying very low prices for their produce, and worry that export schedules of their products are structured to prevent competition with Israeli exporters. Jordan has been purchasing 50 per cent of the occupied territories' seasonal produce, which was either marketed here, and in other Arab countries, or sent to the EC, together with similar Jordanian products, through the Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company of Jordan (AMPCO).

"When we allow 50 per cent of the occupied territories' produce into Jordan — either to be consumed or marketed — it is not because we need these items, but because we are offering them a market outlet," said Mr. Dudin. [passage omitted]

Group Reiterates Demands for Waite's Release
NC020631 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0600 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] The Organization of Right Against Falsehood distributed a statement this morning in which it reiterated its insistence on its demands in return for releasing Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite. The statement outlines the organization's demands as $10 million ransom and the release of the mujahidin being held in Israeli and Kuwaiti prisons. The organization says that the key to the Waite issue lies in the hands of the organization, not in the hands of any Arab state.

The statement adds: If the Anglican Church wishes to negotiate, it has to do so with the organization, because negotiations with any other side will be useless. The statement points out that the organization is willing to hold these negotiations in any place proposed.

TANJUG Cites Papers on Waite
LD011834 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1738 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Beirut, Sept 1 (TANJUG) — Special envoy of the Anglican Church Terry Waite is alive and is treated well by his kidnappers, reports the United Arab Emirates daily *Al-Ittihad*.

The daily quoted "well-informed sources" as saying that Waite was (?being) held in the southern, Shi'ite suburbs of Beirut. A similar report on Waite was made recently by the British television network BBC.

Waite was abducted in West, Moslem Beirut on January 20 this year while being escorted by Lebanese Druze militiamen to negotiations with a group holding foreign hostages in Lebanon.

The same sources said only a handful of people knew exactly where Waite is being held, but did not name the group who took him hostage.

The BBC said Waite was kidnapped by the pro-Iranian fundamentalist Moslem organization Hizballah (Party of God).

Lebanese newspapers say that secret talks were under way between the British Government and the kidnappers and claim that London was (?prepared to) pay [figure indistinct] million dollars for Waite's release.

Lebanese Druze leader Walid Junblatt was said to be mediating the negotiations. Junblatt's fighters were in charge of Waite's security during his negotiations with the groups holding hostages.

AL-SHIRA' on Iranian-U.S. Hostage Talks
NC010829 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 31 Aug 87 p 6

[Excerpt] Political sources have emphasized that the hostage file has been reopened and that behind-the-scenes contacts are under way on several levels. The same sources affirm that Iranian-U.S. talks in this respect are being held with extreme caution, in addition to exchanges between Tehran and other capitals. According to these sources, the hostage issue will provide the key Iran needs to have the maritime and land siege on its territory lifted. The United States reportedly deems this a fair price for easing its hard-line position in the Gulf. [passage omitted]

Fatah Alleges Amal-Israeli 'Agreement'
NC011159 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] The Fatah movement has revealed an Amal-Israeli agreement giving the Amal movement responsibility for security. Fatah asserts that several meetings were held between the two sides on the open sea, leading to an agreement aimed at evicting Palestinians from the Tyre area toward the North. The agreement also aims at driving Sunnis from the area.

According to available information, Israel has asked the [Progressive] Socialist Party not to intervene in Sidon in return for securing the Socialists' passage along the Al-Shuf-Hasbaya road.

In another development, defections have been reported from the ranks of Junblatt's militias to the South Lebanese Army in Hasbaya for higher salaries.

Syrian Forces Reportedly Deploy 100 Men in Al-Biqa'
NC020754 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 2 Sep 87
[Text] The *Al-Anwar* newspaper reports that the Syrian forces have deployed over 100 men from their special units along the Saghbin-'Aytanit road and erected three roadblocks in 'Aytanit, Bab Mari' and Saghbin, where cars and pedestrians are being searched. The paper notes that tension still prevails following recent clashes between Amal and Syrian Social Nationalist Party [SSNP] personnel and adds that gunmen kidnapped two SSNP members, Zuhayr al-Khashin and 'Ali Mun'im, from the town of Suhmur yesterday. This increases the number of kidnapped SSNP memebrs to six.

The *Central News Agency* had earlier cited Western Al-Biqa' sources as noting a number of indications that the area has been left open to some security and military changes aimed at expanding the Syrian presence in the western Al-Biqa'. These sources point out that the Amal-SSNP clashes were fabricated because the Amal movement had previously requested Syrian deployment along the Mashgharah-'Ammiq road, including 'Aytanit and Saghbin.

2 Killed, Many Wounded in Sidon Clashes
NC011218 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Excerpts] The Al-Najm square in Sidon was the scene today of clashes involving the use of rockets and machineguns between elements of the Nasirite Popular Organization's security police and Muslim groups. Shops were closed and the Sidon-Tyre road was cut as a result. Gunmen appeared in the city's streets immediately after the fighting began. Clashes were still raging

when we entered the studio, and a number of persons have been wounded. [passage omitted]

According to reports, two persons have been killed.

Financial sources note that the clashes were due to the sale of Lebanese-pound coins for an amount equal to only $1 each. The sources fear this could be an indication of an operation in which a foreign currency similar to the pound coin is being forged.

Reportage on Visit by Jordan's King Husayn

Arrives in Damascus 1 Sep

JN011141 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn arrived in Damascus at noon today on a brief working visit to the Syrian Arab Republic. He will hold talks with his brother His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad within the framework of the continual coordination and consultation between the two Arab leaders on current Arab developments and bilateral ties between the fraternal countries.

An official reception was held for his majesty at the airport with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad leading the welcoming party. Also present were Vice Presidents 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Dr Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, the deputy prime ministers, the ministers, and senior officials as well as the Jordanian ambassador in Damascus. His Majesty King Husayn and His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad then proceeded in a state motorcade to the Presidential Palace where an expanded meeting was held. [passage omitted]

Meets With Al-Asad, Officials

JN011144 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan arrived in Damascus today. He was received at the airport by President Hafiz al-Asad. He was also received by Vice Presidents 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Zuhayr Mashariqah; Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm; ministers; and General Hikmat al-Shihabi, chief of staff of the Army and the Armed Forces. After greeting those welcoming him, King Husayn proceeded with the president in an official motorcade to the Presidential Palace. At the Presidential Palace they held an expanded meeting that included 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Zuhayr Mashariqah, 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', and members of the Jordanian delegation. The Jordanian delegation comprises: Zayd al-Rifa'i, prime minister; Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Court; and 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, court minister.

'Closed Meeting' With Al-Asad

JN011735 Amman Television Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn and His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad held a closed meeting at the Presidential Palace in Damascus this evening. Earlier, his majesty the king held talks with his brother His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad. Their talks fell within the framework of the continuous coordination and consultation between the two Arab leaders on the Arab situation and relations between the two friendly countries. The talks were held at the Presidential Palace in Damascus. The Jordanian side was represented by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Royal Hashemite Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim, and Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah. Syria was represented by Vice Presidents 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Zuhayr Mashariqah, Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'. The meeting was interrupted by a luncheon banquet given by President Hafiz al-Asad in honor of His Majesty King Husayn. The Jordanian and Syrian delegations attended the banquet.

2d 'Closed Meeting' Noted

JN012045 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
2015 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Excerpts] President Hafiz al-Asad and His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal resumed their talks at 1845 today in a closed meeting at the Presidential Palace. Talks during the two expanded and closed meetings centered on bilateral relations and cooperation between Syria and Jordan. They also dsicussed the situation in the region, recent developments in the region, and the situation in the Arab world. [passage omitted]

His Majesty King Husayn departed Damascus at 2245 today. He was seen off at the airport by President Hafiz al-Asad. He was also seen off by Vice Presidents 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Zuhayr Mashariqah, Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, the deputy prime ministers, the ministers, and the Jordanian ambassador in Damascus.

Reportage on Visit by Greek Foreign Minister

Arrives, Makes Statement

JN281618 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Text] Damascus — Karolos Papoulias, Greek minister of foreign affairs, and his accompanying delegation arrived in Damascus this afternoon. Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and Assistant Foreign Minister Yusuf Shakkur received the guest at Damascus International Airport. Also on hand to receive him were Hisham Kahallah, head of the Western European Department of the Foreign Ministry; 'Abd al-Hasib al-Ustuwani, head of protocol at the Foreign Ministry; and the Greek ambassador in Damascus and the embassy staff.

In a statement to a SANA correspondent upon arrival, Papoulias said: First, I would like to express my pleasure over my visit to friendly Syria and also over my new visit to Damascus, especially taking into account the fact that our region is going through turbulent and unusual circumstances. He added: We are all aware of the good and friendly relations binding His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad and Prime Minister Papandreou. Considering these factors, we will hold talks with Foreign Minister Faruq al- Shar' on bilateral relations in particular and the region in general. Our bilateral relations are friendly and strong. He added: These relations are continuously developing in the interest of both friendly peoples.

Papoulias went on to say: I am carrying a written message from the prime minister to His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad. I hope to have the chance to meet his excellency the president in order to convey this message to him.

Meets With Al-Shar'

JN282033 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 28 Aug 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received his Greek counterpart Karolos Papoulias this evening. They exchanged views on a number of bilateral and international issues of interest to both friendly countries. Talks centered on the serious situation in the Arab Gulf region and the results of the Arab foreign ministers conference recently held in Tunis. Extreme concern was expressed regarding the presence of foreign navies in the Gulf.

Official talks will begin at the Foreign Ministry tomorrow morning. The Syrian side will be led by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and the Greek side by Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias.

Talks With Khaddam

JN291336 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias and his delegation in Damascus at 1300 today. The meeting was attended by the Greek ambassador in Damascus. Talks centered on the situation in the region as well as bilateral relations. The Syrian side, led by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', and the Greek side, led by Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias, began official talks at the Syrian Foreign Ministry this morning.

The talks were attended on the Syrian side by 'Isam al-Na'ib, minister of state for foreign affairs; Yusuf Shakkur, Syrian assistant foreign minister; Hisham Kahhalah, head of the Western European Department of the Foreign Ministry; and Walid al-Mu'allim, director of the special bureaus department. On the Greek side, they were attended by (Konstandinos Yeoryios), Greek Foreign Ministry secretary general; (Yeoryios Konstandinos), the Greek ambassador in Damascus; (Nikoskala Jiatus), director of the Greek foreign minister's diplomatic office; and (Yeoryios Gabrilatos), the Greek Embassy's adviser in Damascus.

Talks centered on ways to promote relations between the two friendly countries in all areas as well as the current situation in the Middle East, the Arab Gulf, and the Balkans. They held identical views on the need to convene a real and effective UN-sponsored international conference on the Middle East. They affirmed the conference should not be a framework for direct negotiations and partial and unilateral settlements.

The two sides expressed their deep concern over the presence of foreign naval fleets in Arab Gulf waters. They also stressed these fleets will only increase tension in the situation and called for the withdrawal of all naval fleets from Gulf waters.

They also affirmed their support for a just solution to the Cypriot issue guaranteeing the island's unity, sovereignty, and neutrality. Regarding the Balkans, the two sides voiced their support for the establishment of a nuclear-free zone.

Received by Al-Asad

JN301440 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias and the accompanying delegation at 1130 today. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and Greek Ambassador in Damascus (Yeoryios Konstandinos). Papoulias gave the president a written message from Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou expressing Greece's appreciation for Syria's stands and its important role in the Middle East. During the meeting, talks dealt with the situation in the region and the Gulf as well as bilateral relations.

Meets With Defense Minister

JN301442 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1150 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Damascus, 30 Aug (SANA) — General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, received Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias and the accompanying delegation in his office today in the presence of the Greek ambassador in Damascus. Talks dealt with the situation in the region, the cordial relations between Syria and Greece, and issues of interest to both friendly countries and peoples.

Meets With Prime Minister

JN301708 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1535 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Damascus, 30 Aug (SANA) — Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm received Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias and the accompanying delegation this morning. Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and the Greek ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. During the meeting talks dealt with bilateral relations, the current situation in the region, and issues of interest to both friendly countries.

Makes Statement, Departs

JN301909 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias and the accompanying delegation left Damascus this evening following a 3-day visit to Syria. He was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Faruq al-Shar', foreign minister; Yusuf Shakkur, the foreign minister's assistant; Hisham Kahhalah, director of the West Europe Department of the Foreign Ministry; the director of the Foreign Ministry's Protocol Department; (Yeoryios Konstandinos), the Greek ambassador in Damascus; and the Greek Embassy staff. Papoulias made a statement to a SANA correspondent prior to his departure. He expressed satisfaction with the results of his visit to Syria and asserted the visit was successful and that talks were held in a friendly atmosphere, particularly during his lengthy meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad.

Papoulias said: My talks with President Hafiz al-Asad and Syrian officials dealt with fundamental issues and were successful and frank. We made an accurate analysis of the current

situation in the region. We also exchanged views and ideas on the regional situation and on the serious situation in the Gulf. He added: The Syrian and Greek Governments should take initiatives to ease tension in the region.

Papoulias pointed out that his talks with Faruq al-Shar' were lengthy and frank. They agreed to intensify contacts in the future. He said: The future of our countries and cooperation between them requires the intensification of meetings. Concluding his statement, the Greek foreign minister voiced his thanks and those of the accompanying delegation for the hospitality he was accorded during his successful visit to Syria.

AL-BA'TH Claims U.S. Seeks To Expand Gulf War

PM011357 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 17 Aug 87 p 1

[Editorial: "The Policy of Fleets and the Required Arab Position"]

[Text] All indications are that the aim of the U.S. military mobilizations in the Arab Gulf is not to "calm" down matters as claimed by White House officials and their agents in the region, rather it has been categorically confirmed that the U.S.-NATO military mobilization and political moves entailing military dimensions which have taken place and are continuing mean only one thing, that the U.S. Administration, in complete coordination with Israel, Western countries, and certain circles in the region, have done and are still doing this in the context of a plan which goes beyond the subject of the current military Iraq-Iran conflict, especially since Washington sees the expansion of the Iraq-Iran war as serving the aims of its plan. To achieve that, it is seeking to embroil the states of the region in the conflict which has been used since the first hours of its outbreak to serve U.S. and Zionist long-term aims in our Arab homeland. As a matter of fact, the people of the region have started to clearly discern this U.S. tendency in light of certain facts long forgotten by them as a result of the policy of deception pursued by forces opposed to the Arab nation.

Since the start of the insane war, concocted by Saddam and under clear U.S. guidance, Syria has said this war is directed against the Arab nation and its aspirations for freedom, and therefore Syria, along with others, has sought to end this war out of concern for Arab and Islamic resources and the necessity to use them in confronting the real enemies.

However, the Baghdad regime, which is wholly immersed in the U.S. plan, has rejected the language of reason and has continued to implement what it has been entrusted with, so it has wasted the economic and military resources of fraternal Iraq. The result of this insane war has likewise been the squandering of the capabilities of the Iranian revolution which, were it not for this war, would have been used in the interests of the Arabs' most important issue — that of liberating Palestine.

Now, after matters have deteriorated to the present level as a result of the continuation of this insane war, the time has come for the U.S. to reap the fruits of that war, since Washington is no longer satisfied with the mere squandering of Arab wealth, which was supposed to have been used in confronting the Zionist enemy to liberate the land, regain Jerusalem, and fulfill the legitimate rights of our Arab Palestinian people.

In fact, Washington is presently seeking to embroil the states of the region in this mad war by expanding it. The aim behind it is to subordinate the Arab-Zionist conflict, thereby imposing military hegemony on the region and controlling Arab oil.

There is no doubt that this bitter reality means that the Arab leaderships should carefully consider what is happening and revise some previous calculations and seek to rectify their positions in the right direction before it is too late, especially since the enemies of the Arab nation are obviously in a hurry.

Arab Syria, as is well known to our masses, will always remain in the forefront of those who seek to promote a unified Arab stand enabling the Arabs to confront and defeat all their enemies.

Afghan-Soviet Friendship Society Meets 30 Aug

LD311029 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 30 Aug 87

[Text] The Presidium of the Afghan-Soviet Friendship Society held a session today at the headquarters of the Afghanistan's friendship societies with the foreign countries.

The work of the session was attended by Comrade Zohur Razemjo, member of the PDA Central Committee Politburo; Comrade Gol Dad and esteemed Amanuddin Amin, vice chairmen of the DRA Council of Ministers; a number of members of the party Central Committee and members of the DRA Council of Ministers; Comrade Pavel Petrovich Mozhayev, USSR ambassador and representative extraordinary to the DRA; a number of USSR Embassy employees in Kabul; and the society's activists.

A *Bakhtar* correspondent reports that the basic report of the Afghan-Soviet Friendship Society was presented by Comrade Gol Dad, deputy head of the society. Then Comrade Asad (?Roh), deputy head of Afghanistan's Peace, Friendship, and Solidarity Organization, in a speech referred to the shortcomings in the work of the society and spoke about the program for (?action) and fields of activities as well as the society's plans for celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Great October Revolution.

During the session the society's charter was approved and then organizational issues were discussed. The structure of the society's Executive Bureau was approved and Comrade Haydar Masud, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, was appointed chairman and five members of the Executive Bureau were appointed vice chairmen of the Afghan-Soviet Friendship Society.

The Society's presidium has issued a resolution in which Comrade Najib's recent visit to the USSR and his talks with Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, are assessed as an another great step toward the further consolidation of Afghan-Soviet friendship. It expresses its support for the results of the visit.

The national reconciliation policy is referred to in this resolution as the most important historical achievement, and support is expressed for its complete implementation. Also, decisive support is expressed for the DRA draft constitution, which guarantees the democratization of Afghan society, and provides a just and necessary legal and lawful foundation, and a new (?look) to the country. It also highlights peace as an urgent goal at the center of all important national and patriotic forces in the country and provides new conditions for the consolidation of Afghan-Soviet friendship.

The Presidium took the necessary decision toward improving the work of the department of the Afghan-Soviet Friendship Society. The session ended with a slogan for further consolidating Afghan-Soviet friendship.

Karachi Reports 'Mutiny' of Air Force Pilots

BK020756 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0600 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] According to a report from Afghanistan, pilots of the Kabul administration Air Force have staged a mutiny at the Baghran airport, north of Kabul.

The pilots staged this mutiny following a strike to protest the increasing number of times the mujahidin has shot down their aircraft. The mutinous pilots clashed with Soviet-Kabul soldiers. About 15 aircraft (?on the ground) were damaged and several civilians were killed in the air raids waged by the Soviet Union [as heard].

Mujahidin Activities in Kapisa, Baghlan Provinces

BK011532 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan speak of fierce clashes between the mujahidin and the Soviet-Kabul forces in Panjsher Valley of Kapisa Province in which 90 Soviet-Kabul forces were killed. The mujahidin also claimed to have shot down two helicopter gunships. The mujahidin also attacked a patrol at (Qole Kalli) town and inflicted heavy damage to life and property. According to a report, the mujahidin killed 19 Soviet-Kabul soldiers in Baghlan Province.

Iranian 'Special Envoy' Calls on Ershad

BK011345 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] The Iranian special envoy, Mr Ebrahim Rahimpur, called on President Ershad in Dhaka today. He handed over a check for $15,000 U.S. to the president for flood relief on behalf of the government and the people of Iran. Mr Ebrahim expressed hope that the fraternal people of Iran and Bangladesh would stand side by side in time of distress, and the friendship between the two countries would grow in coming years. The envoy also explained the situation obtaining in the Gulf. President Ershad thanked the people and the Government of Iran and said such gesture is the manifestation of the feelings and friendship of the people of Iran toward the people of Bangladesh.

The president expressed concern over the escalation of tension in the Gulf and said Bangladesh was watching the situation closely. He said for the sake of Islamic solidarity and as a member of ICO Peace Committee, Bangladesh earnestly wants an immediate end of the conflict between the two brotherly countries.

The Iranian ambassador in Dhaka was also present.

Further Details on Meeting

LD011448 Tehran IRNA in English 1435 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Dhaka, Sept. 1, IRNA — Iran's Foreign Ministry director general for Asia and Oceania Ebrahim Rahimpur conferred with Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammad Ershad here today.

In the meeting Rahimpur explained Iran's stance towards Persian Gulf developments and expressed regret that the Iraqi regime with its acts of atrocity has brought tension to the region and dragged fleets of the U.S. and other powers to regional waters.

He also briefed President Ershad on massacre of hajj pilgrims by the Saudi regime in Mecca on July 31.

In reply Ershad confirmed Iran's stance that regional security should be maintained by the littoral countries without any foreign intervention.

Ershad further thanked the Islamic Republic for its help to Bangladesh despite being involved in the Iraqi-imposed war. He also called for expansion of Tehran-Dhaka friendly relations.

Rahimpur heading a delegation arrived here from Nepal Monday. He is scheduled to visit Burma and Sri Lanka.

Commentary Acknowledges Foreign Flood Relief Aid

BK300753 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 29 Aug 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] International response to flood devastation in Bangladesh has been encouraging. Friendly nations have extended the helping hand in whatever manner they can do to ease the hardship of the flood-hit people in this country. The flood this year has been worst in recent memories. The government is doing its best to give succor to the distressed people within its limited resources. The magnitude of the devastation has been so great that external assistance would be of immense help. The implementation of the post-flood rehabilitation program would be as important as the current flow of relief. There has been widespread destruction of roads, railway tracks, dwellings, and standing crops. Repairs of railway tracks will alone require 150 million taka.

United Nations Disaster Relief Organization has apprised all member governments, donor agencies, and nongovernment organizations of the flood devastation in Bangladesh and the assistance it would require to meet the challenge.

Japan has donated 100,000 tons of wheat and rice to Bangladesh. In addition, it would help World Food Program to launch its program in Bangladesh on a wider scale after the floods. The United States has donated $25,000 plus additional 130,000 metric tons of wheat for relief operations. The European Economic Community will be sending 25,000 tons of food and more than half a million dollars of emergency aid to flood victims. The money will be spent on building materials, seeds, cloth, and other household items for some of the 20 million people affected by the disaster. Dutch Government said it would give 2 million guilders, that is $1 million, as emergency aid.

United Nations Secretary General Perez de Cuellar expressed his grave concern during a meeting with visiting Bangladesh Vice President Justice Nural Islam in New York recently. He assured help from the United Nations system. Iraq, despite it involvement in the long-term war, has released five of its helicopters to expedite relief operations in the inaccessible areas of Bangladesh. Iraqi President Saddam Husayn will send a special cargo plane with relief materials like foodstuffs, flour, sugar, blankets, beds, and medicines for the flood-affected people of Bangladesh.

Maldives minister, Mr Abdul Hameed, is in Dhaka with a letter from his president for President Ershad. He visited the flood-hit areas in the (?neighborhood) of the capital on Friday. Yugoslavia will provide relief goods worth $130,000. Pakistan has agreed to give 10 million takas. Hungary will supply medicine worth 340,000 takas. Republic of Korea will give 100,000 U.S. dollars for the procurement of ambulance and 50,000 U.S. dollars for other relief. The Federal Republic of Germany will give 1.7 million taka for [words indistinct] of relief and 10,000 tons of wheat. Canada and Brunei have also given substantial assistance.

The government and people of Bangladesh deeply appreciate the help and assistance extended by the friendly countries in the hour of crisis. While the government and people in Bangladesh have been doing their best to overcome the tragedy, the dimension of the problem is so immense that further assistance would be gratefully acknowledged. Real task is ahead. The fight against human misery and rehabilitation of uprooted millions would be of formidable dimension. This calls for united efforts. So, President Ershad has called on opposition political leaders to meet him next month.

Tight Curfew Enforced on Punjab-Pakistani Border

BK011608 Hong Kong AFP in English
1411 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 1 (AFP) — The Punjab administration Tuesday banned all movement at night within 500 metres (yards) of the Indo-Pakistan border in the northern state's Amritsar District, the *Press Trust of India* (PTI) reported.

The ban covering processions, public meetings and demonstrations would take immediate effect and remain in force till October 30, an announcement by the Amritsar district administration said.

The order was aimed at checking the infiltration into India of "undesirable elements" who want to endanger "the tranquillity, security and defence of India," the news agency said.

India has repeatedly accused Pakistan of training Sikh militants and helping them to cross over into Punjab. Islamabad has denied the charge.

Residents in the 500-metre area, a militant stronghold, have been asked not to use loud hailers or shout "objectionable" slogans and have been barred from selling or renting out their property without police permission.

The order was issued a day after police warned that Sikh militants fighting for an independent homeland in Punjab had bought large quantities of explosives and were planning a wave of bomb attacks.

EXPRESS Premises Searched, Documents Seized

BK011625 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Central intelligence and investigating agencies have carried out countrywide searches at the premises of the *Indian Express* group of companies and their associates.

A Finance Ministry spokesman said in New Delhi this evening that incriminating documents have been seized which indicate large-scale economic offenses by the group.

The spokesman said the searches were continuing, and the full extent of the violation of various fiscal laws will be available after these are complete. He quoted reports as saying that the seized documents revealed serious violation of the Customs Act of 1982, the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act of 1973, and violations of import trade control regulations and income tax evasion.

The spokesman said a preliminary scrutiny of some of the documents prima facie brings out gross misdeclaration of the printing machinery imported by these companies, both in its description, value, and number of units imported. The imported machinery for installation at particular stations has been diverted and installed elsewhere. This means that declaration given to the concerned authorities have been falsified. This constitutes a serious violation of the regulations governing the import of such machinery.

The spokesman said that seized documents also disclosed prima facie evasion of income tax on a fairly large scale. The searches have been carried out after the authorities had received information over a period of time indicating specific economic offenses by the *Indian Express* group of companies and their associates.

The Editors Guild of India has criticized the searches carried out at the premises of the *Indian Express* group. In a statement, the guild described the government's action as one that endangered the freedom of the press.

Pakistani Remarks on Sri Lanka Action Criticized

BK011040 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English
22 Aug 87 p 9

[Editorial: "Pakistan's Anger"]

[Text] Islamabad is terribly upset by the fact that Indian armed forces have been asked by President Junius Jayewardene to do a peace-keeping job in Sri Lanka. It has vented its anger and dismay at the level of no less than its Foreign Secretary, Mr Abdus Sattar. As a spokesman of the Pakistan Foreign office he has disapproved of the presence of Indian soldiers in Sri Lanka because he thinks it is interference in the affairs of Sri Lanka. Mr Sattar's clinching argument to prove his point of outside intervention is a parallel he draws with inducing foreign (presumably Pakistani) forces into a troubled State of India (presumably Punjab); would India have permitted this? The simple answer to this question is that the sole authority to permit foreign troops, or any other category of foreigners, into Sri Lanka rests entirely with President Jayewardene as the head of State and government of his country. The Indian peace-keeping forces are in Sri Lanka today with the same authority that permitted, some time ago, Pakistani military trainers and Israeli intelligence experts to be in that country (it is a different matter if the friends of the Arabs in Islamabad did not find the Israelis strange bed-fellows). Mr Sattar's ire at the presence of Indian forces in Sri Lanka, therefore, should have been directed at Mr Jayewardene. By lambasting India instead, Pakistan is guilty of insulting Sri Lanka's sovereign authority.

The Pakistan Government cannot but see the fallacy of blaming India for agreeing to send peace-keeping forces to Sri Lanka (which will remain there under Mr Jayewardene's command and only as long as he wishes). And yet, it has thought it fit to castigate India. There may be other reasons for it than meet the eye. First, from the position of being a near-mentor of Sri Lanka in its quarrel with India, Pakistan has been cut to size by Mr Jayewardene who has decided to rid himself of Pakistani and Israeli helpers, and sort out his problems with New Delhi directly. It is frustrating enough for Islamabad to see its developing role of a protector of the smaller nations of South Asia, like Sri Lanka, against the "hegemonistic" India. Much worse is the apparent endorsement of India's regional superiority by the big powers, including the United States, that does so much to boost Pakistan's ego. Indeed, Pakistan should read a message in the international welcome to the India-Sri Lanka accord. The massive arms supplies to Pakistan together with its nuclear programme seem to have inspired Islamabad into adopting an assertive posture in South Asia. The prompt and enthusiastic

U.S. support to the India-Sri Lanka accord should have been seen by Pakistan as a signal that the accretion to its military muscles is for a job to be done along its Afghan frontiers and in the Gulf — and not beyond. Mr Sattar's criticism of India can thus also be seen as a protest to the American perception of the power equation in South Asia. If this is what it is aiming at, Pakistan will do well to talk directly with Washington. The language it is using only irritates India, but violates the sovereignty of Sri Lanka. [sentence as received]

Spanish Tanker Attacked by 'High-Speed Gunboat'

NC011714 Paris AFP in English 1708 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Manama, Sept 1 (AFP) — A Spanish oil tanker, the *Munguia*, was attacked Tuesday by a high-speed gunboat in the central Gulf, off the coast of Saudi Arabia, shipping sources said, in an apparent second strike in as many days by Iran's Revolutionary Guards militia.

The *Munguia* sent out a distress signal after the attack, which took place 110 kilometres (70 miles) to the east of the Saudi port of Jubayl, had started a fire aboard the vessel, the sources said.

A Kuwaiti container ship, the *Jabal 'Ali*, was involved in a similar attack Monday in the southern Gulf carried out by a rapid gunboat of the type often used by Iran's irregular naval forces.

Iran has repeatedly warned that it would attack shipping in the Gulf if Iraq hit its oil export facilities and ships. Baghdad has reported eight air strikes on tankers travelling to or from Iran since Saturday, following a six-week lull in such operations.

Responsibility for Attacks Claimed

OW021251 Tokyo KYODO in English 1230 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, Sept. 2 KYODO — Iran Wednesday claimed responsibility for gunfire attacks on four vessels, including a Japanese-chartered tanker, in the Persian Gulf from Tuesday through early Wednesday.

Diamond Marine, a Liberian tanker chartered by Nippon Yusen K.K. was hit by machine gun fire from two unidentified speed boats in the Strait of Hormuz around 8 A.M. Wednesday (Japan time), the Japanese Government reported the same day.

All eight Japanese and 16 South Korean crewmen aboard the 227,295-ton tanker were uninjured, the Transport Ministry in Tokyo said. It added that the tanker was carrying crude oil to Japan from Saudi Arabia.

It was the first time that Iran has claimed credit for tanker attacks as the war with Iraq resumed a 45-day break, triggered by the latter's offensive on August 29.

In the resumed exchange of attacks, 16 vessels have so far been involved. Iraq has claimed responsibility for attacks on 10 of them, but damage has been confirmed only in seven cases. On Wednesday, Iraq announced another attack on an Iranian tanker.

Meanwhile, Gulf shipping sources said speed boats belonging to Iranian Revolutionary Guards opened fire on the Spanish tanker *Munguia* in waters off Bahrain Tuesday evening, and on the South Korean tanker *Astro Pegasus* in waters off Dubai on Wednesday.

The 3,717-ton Cypriot freighter *Leonidas Glory* suffered minor damage from two rocket-propelled grenades fired by the Iranian gunboats, the sources said.

Iraqi military spokesmen said Wednesday its fighters bombarded a "large maritime target" on the Iranian coast that day, which the shipping sources said was believed to be a tanker from Khark Island, a major Iranian oil terminal.

Tehran on Readiness To Confront Foreign Ships

NC010801 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Commentary by the Central News Unit Research Group: "Persian Gulf, Another Test for the Islamic Republic of Iran"]

[Text] In the past few weeks the United States, taking advantage of the atmosphere it has whipped up internationally, has bolstered its military presence in the Persian Gulf region. They did so on the pretext of assisting Kuwaiti ships, but in fact the purpose was to support the exacerbation of tension in the Gulf by the Iraqi expansionist regime, in contrast with the rational policies of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Iran has stated that should its oil exports be disrupted by Iraqi mischief-mongering, the oil exports of those countries which have consistently supported Iraq for the past few years will also be suspended. It was under these conditions that the United States openly instructed Iraq to halt attacks on Iranian oil exports in the Persian Gulf. However, now that the United States and its European allies, such as France and Great Britain, have stationed their forces in the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman on a large scale, Iraq once again resorted to provocations against Iranian interests in the region.

In view of the coordination and concurrence between Iraq and the United States regarding recent events, the U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf, and the Islamic Republic of Iran's position on attacks on any maritime target supporting Iraq's economic or military capability, this Iraqi action is tantamount to dragging the United States into the arena, a situation from which it will find extricating itself difficult and its path to victory thwarted. This is because our people have gained immense, valuable experience in the course of the imposed war, as well as building up their spiritual strength and military capability. In fact, by stationing its forces in the Persian Gulf and disseminating propaganda about its military strength through the imperialist media, what message can the United States possibly be sending our resisting and war-trained people? The pompous U.S. propaganda, especially regarding their warships -- which they say are equipped with missiles, long-range torpedoes, aircraft, and helicopters -- cannot affect the morale of these selfless people.

It has been many years since 6-meter and 9-meter missiles and Iraqi long-range artillery attacked the resisting cities of Dezful, Andimeshk, and Bakhtaran. During these criminal attacks the Iranian people endured all these injustices in battle like (?invincible bastions) of resistance. Despite the aircraft given to Iraq which they used to attack residential areas of the country and our capital on Jerusalem Day, the people continued to march in the streets and proved the aerial attack ineffective. All the warships — the *USS Missouri*, France's *Clemenceau*, and the

British battleships — are under the delusion that they can bring our self-sacrificing people to their knees.

The fact is that world oppression, spearheaded by the United States, could achieve nothing, despite its extensive efforts, except whatever blows Iraq managed to inflict on our country. However, Iran's combat capability against those fomenting tension in the Persian Gulf remains an enigma to many people. Only in the event of a confrontation can this reality assert its existence extensively.

Our fighters have proven that with the armor of a creative and selfless spirit, dazzling results can be achieved with the most modest and primitive resources. Hence, a small but swift speedboat with only one fighter at the helm, poised against warships equipped with progressive technology, has opened a fresh chapter in military tactics.

Our enemies are unaware of the weaponry and resources we possess. Some time ago the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] minister announced that Corps ordnance industries had manufactured models of progressive submarines. He added that our first piloted planes have already been flown, and pilotless planes are being mass-produced.

In addition, the IRGC has initiated the manufacture of two kinds of (TAB) and (Malyutka) missiles and grenades and mini-katyushas. We have become self-sufficient in producing various kinds of cannon and long-range missiles. While all this is indicative of dazzling progress in the technical capability of our country's ordnance industries, it is more important that many of these military products are the result of the selflessness and creativity of the Islamic fighters, exceeding the classic [preceding word in English] boundaries and showing signs of promising unpredictable results.

In view of our present military capability and the experience gained in the 7-year war, the Islamic Republic of Iran is completely ready, despite its self-restraint, to respond powerfully to the machinations of Iraq and the United States.

In these circumstances the United States can still extricate itself from this dangerous game. If not, there will be no way out for the United States.

REUTER Cited on U.S. Rescue of Downed Iraqi Pilot

LD011753 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] The U.S. Defense Department today announced: The U.S. Navy last night saved an Iraqi Air Force pilot who was floating on a wooden log in the Persian Gulf. According to the *Reuter* report, the Iraqi pilot was suffering from sunburn and extreme thirst, but his overall physical condition was good.

According to this report the Iraqi pilot said that he believed his plane was shot down by an Iranian missile. This is reported at a time when Iraq has announced that her planes have all returned safely to their bases.

Statement Issued on Pilot

NC020512 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0330 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] The fact that the United States did not hand over the pilot of the downed Iraqi fighter plane in the Persian Gulf and instead transferred him to Saudi Arabia indicates how the United States cooperates with and favors the warmongering Iraqi regime.

The War Information Headquarters issued a statement stressing that, as the Iraqi pilot had participated in the bombing of Iranian economic installations and his aircraft had been downed by the air defense units of the Islamic fighters, he should have, on principle, been handed over to Iran as a prisoner of war. However, violating its professed stance of neutrality, the United States handed over the Iraqi pilot to the regime ruling Hijaz so that, with its political collusion, the Iranian POW may be transported back to Iraq.

The statement adds: This U.S. action has proved that one of the reasons for its massive and unprecedented military presence in the Persian Gulf is to support the warmongering Iraqi regime, in which reactionary Arabs, including the Al Sa'ud regime, act in complete concurrence with the United States. The failure to hand over the Iraqi pilot to Iran indicates that the United States supports Iraq's creation of tension in the Persian Gulf and is even willing to cooperate with that regime to escalate it.

Majlis Speaker Addresses IRGC on Deterrence

LD011758 Tehran IRNA in English 1745 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 1, IRNA — Majlis speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani says big powers are not in the Persian Gulf to maintain security, prevent the Iraqi-imposed war from spilling over or to safeguard the world's vital economic vein as they claim. In fact they are here merely to heighten regional tension, he added.

Speaking to a group of personnel of the chemical, biological and radioactive warfare units of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) here today, the speaker said that Muslims should equip themselves with a deterrent weapon to counter the arsenal used by World Blasphemy against them.

The Baghdad regime has deployed chemical arms against Kurdish-populated villages in northern Iraq because of its weakness in confronting them, noted the speaker, adding that some Iraqi Kurdish people affected by Iraqi toxic gases were treated in Iran.

Describing the Iraqi Ba'thists as "the most brutal and merciless people in the world", Hoj. Hashemi-Rafsanjani said "otherwise they (Ba'thists) would never have imposed a war on Islam and Muslims."

"We have no doubt our enemies deployed chemical weapons in battle fields in a bid to force the Islamic Republic to submit," the speaker said, adding that they thought Iran is quite defenseless against these (chemical) weapons. They did not realize that Iran would soon be able to defend itself, he added.

Adverting to equal retaliation, the speaker said "we declare that if we are invaded in any way, we will counter them the same way as ordered by the Koran."

Pointing to the July 31 Mecca massacre by the Saudi police, Hoj. Hashemi-Rafsanjani said they (Saudis) profaned Allah's secure house, and martyred Muslim pilgrims with suffocating gases, fire arms and stones.

The speaker mentioned the immoral and hypocritical aspects of the foes of Islam, said that they (enemies) disguised themselves in "Christ's cloak", and hide the most lethal weapons "underneath".

These enemies, he stressed, respect neither Islamic nor human or moral aspects.

Majlis Speaker Condemns Saudi Enmity to Muslims

LD010936 Tehran IRNA in English 0703 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 1, IRNA — Majlis speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani here Monday described the situation in Saudi Arabia as deplorable and said the Saudis, instead of being at the service of Muslims are serving the enemies of Muslims.

Speaking to a group of visiting Saudi theological students from the holy city of Qom, he said that world blasphemy carries out ambitious plans in the region with the help of the Saudis.

At present, he continued, the Saudis function as 'unpaid servants of the satans' willing to do anything for the appeasement and domination of blasphemy.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani further told the Saudi students here that the vast Saudi oil resources rather than being used for promotion of Islam are being used for the destruction of the Saudi Arabians.

Saudi resources are exploited to suppress any regional nation which launches a revolution to restore Islam, the Islamic Republic of Iran being one good example, he added.

As long as this situation continues in Saudi Arabia, he stressed, Israel can rest assured and enjoy security.

He said that Muslims are faced with an alliance of crooked people who have usurped vast resources of the Islamic world and who use them against Islam and Muslims.

Saudi Arabia, he told his audience, may well become the core of the movement of Muslims.

If Saudi resources, he said, be entrusted upon Muslims the annual hajj ceremonies would then be the best forum for Muslims to consolidate their integrity, but, he noted that in practice the Saudis suppress Muslims' call for world justice, and their unwarranted assault at Muslims demonstrating their antipathy towards global ungodly rulers in Mecca (on July 31) is a token of their world outlooks.

Prime Minister Arrives in Mazandaran Province

LD011204 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] We draw your attention to a report from a Central News Unit correspondent in Sari on Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi's trip to Mazandaran Province.

[Begin unidentified correspondent recording] This morning, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi, an engineer, landed at Sari airport in order to meet the clergy, people, and responsible officials of Mazandaran Province. He is also here to attend the ceremonies marking the start of construction of a medical college in Sari and of the Tajan Dam.

He was welcomed by the governor-general of Mazandaran, a group of Friday imams, the deputies of the people of Mazandaran at the Islamic Majlis, and several clergymen and responsible officials. The prime minister is accompanied by the minister of health, treatment, and medical education; the deputy prime minister and supervisor of the Foundation of the Oppressed; the governor of the Central Bank; and the managing director of the National Bank.

In an interview with the Central News Unit at Sari Airport, the prime minister referred to the resumption of atrocities in the Persian Gulf by the Zionist regime ruling Iraq, and said: There is no doubt that these atrocities are being carried out in coordination with the United States. Their main objective is to force us into submission and compromise and to accept an imposed peace that would safeguard long-term U.S. interests in the region.

The prime minister stressed: No arrogant power in the world will be able to impose its conditions on us. We are still loyal to our principles. Undoubtedly, these atrocities will not remain unanswered. As we have demonstrated, we will answer these atrocities powerfully by using the techniques and levers at our disposal. [end recording]

Promises Response to UN Resolution

LD011410 Tehran IRNA in English 1351 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Sari, Mazandaran Prov., Sept. 1, IRNA — Iran will soon declare its viewpoints regarding each and every article of the U.N. Security Council resolution No. 598 on the Iraqi-imposed war, said Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi here Tuesday.

The premier, here to lay the foundations for a medical college and a dam in this northern province, said that the despatch of warships by the British and French Governments to the Persian Gulf in order to heighten tension in the region was not a new plot. Such hostile positions taken by the London and Paris governments have been clear to the Islamic Republic since a long time ago, asserted Musavi.

Premier Musavi noted that Saddam (Husayn), as the agent of Western governments, is now attempting to spread the war into other parts of the region and that the new phase of Iraqi air raids on Iranian economic resources served the said plot.

Assails Push for 'Compromise'
LD020607 Tehran IRNA in English 0601 GMT 2 SEP 87

[Text] Sari, Mazandaran Prov., Sept. 2, IRNA — Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi said here Tuesday that recent Iraqi attacks on Iranian economic and military centers followed the chain of plots of the U.S. and Iraq's western allies.

The prime minister who arrived here Tuesday morning on a one-day visit was addressing a large group of people. He added that "such acts of mischief will not go unanswered."

U.S. Military moves in the Persian Gulf and its campaign in international circles aim at pushing Iran to a compromise, he added.

Iran's claim at the early days of the imposed-war that Iraq waged to war on Iran at the order of the U.S. administration, is now substantiated.

U.S. presence in the Persian Gulf, continued the premier, will solely heighten the tension in the Persian Gulf and further spread the war.

Later speaking at the Administrative Council of Mazandaran Province, Prime Minister Musavi said that recent Iraqi attacks would be impossible without using air-bases of the Persian Gulf countries.

Speaks on Gulf War, Inflation
NC020713 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] Prime Minister Mr Hoseyn Musavi, who is on a visit to Mazandaran Province, participated in a grand gathering of the residents of Sari last evening at the local prayer grounds. In his speech, he touched upon the developments in the imposed war, the Persian Gulf situation, and the government's measures to check inflation and stabilize prices.

First of all, Prime Minister Musavi spoke on the sensitive Persian Gulf situation and the multilateral plot of the criminal United States to safeguard its interests in the region and to support the Zionist Iraqi regime. He said: The recent Iraqi attacks on the economic and military installations were undoubtedly undertaken in coordination with the United States and are part of the series of plots hatched by the United States and its Western allies. Explaining the U.S. military action in the Persian Gulf and its political activity on the international scene -- which is concurrent with the readiness of the Islamic forces to inflict more blows on the decrepit Iraqi ruling regime's forces and is aimed at persuading the Iranian nation to accept a compromise -- Mr Musavi said: If we had said at the beginning of the war that Saddam had entered into a war with the Islamic Republic at U.S. instigation and for the protection of vital U.S. interests in the region, this reality would have [words indistinct].

Mr Musavi added: Today, not only has the U.S. role in the imposed war become clear to the world -- that is, it is geared to Iraq's benefit -- but the (?self-sold) regimes that have been supplying various kinds of arms and money to Iraq have also been humiliated. He referred to the fact that the United States creates fear in the Muslims of the region by displaying its technologically advanced armaments in the Persian Gulf and said: The arch-satan thought that by raising an exaggerated hue and cry, it could eliminate our nation from the scene, so it entered our region. However, today that same nation has opened the fist of its false strength before the aware nations of the world.

Continuing his address, the prime minister emphasized that the U.S. presence in the Persian Gulf can only contribute to tension and expansion of the range of the war. However, it will not benefit itself or Saddam. He warned the United States that if Saddam's crimes are exposed today, it should be anticipated that the Muslim nations and forces influenced by the Islamic revolution will inflict effective blows on its centers in the world.

The prime minister referred to the fact that the United States, all over the world, and Saddam, in the imposed war, have repeatedly seen the results of their mischief-mongering and their criminal actions. He said: Obviously, the Iraqi regime's attacks on our cities, civilian areas, and economic installations are not without U.S. coordination. Such mischiefmongering will not remain unanswered.

Regarding the government's campaign for combating blackmarketeering and hoarding, the prime minister said: Despite the fact that the Islamic Republic's system has a totally independent and (?firm) economy even in war conditions, and that our nation is enduring all kinds of hardships in order to uphold Islam, some unscrupulous and (?dishonest) individuals are hoarding essential items and involved in blackmarketeering. He said: A plan is being implemented to combat prevent such practices for the purposes of social justice under the guidance of the imam of the nation. The government will continue its campaign to control inflation and stabilize prices until the desired results are attained.

Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi, who was on a 1-day visit to the Mazandaran city of Sari, departed yesterday evening and was seen off by local officials and clergymen. He arrived in Tehran last night. During his visit he participated in special ground-breaking ceremonies for the (Tajan) Reservoir Dam and the Mazandaran Medical Complex. He also visited the agricultural installations of (Dasht-e Naz) that function under the aegis of the Foundation for the Oppressed.

Musavi Warns Countries Supporting U.S Gulf Plans
LD021119 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, after discussing domestic and foreign reports, the cabinet today listened to the report of Foreign Minister Velayati on regional and international developments and U.S. attempts to save the aggressive Iraqi regime. In this report, the comprehensive U.S. plan to involve some of the regional and West Euronean countries in putting pressure on the Islamic Republic of Iran and providing security for the mischievous acts of the Ba'thist-Zionist Iraqi regime was explained and the diplomatic activities of the Islamic Republic

of Iran to reduce tension in the Persian Gulf region and to prevent the spread of the war were outlined.

After this report, the prime minister referred to the concentration of foreign forces in the Persian Gulf region and the incessant mischief of the Iraqi regime and of its supporters, warning those who are involved in this U.S. plan and the countries which have joined the United States. He said: All these pressures and conspiracies which seek to impose an American peace upon us will not only be ineffective in the face of the determination of our Muslim nation, which has decided to stand firm and to defend its rights. On the contrary, they have greatly increased our preparedness and strength.

The prime minister emphasized that the policy of blow for blow will be followed in a calculated fashion, and a bitter experience awaits the plotters.

According to our correspondent, in today's cabinet session the bill on regulatomg imports and exports during the current year was approved.

Radio Commentary on 'Total' U.S.-Iraq Coordination

LD011343 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1103 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Political commentary]

[Text] Yesterday, concurrent with the continuation of the Iraqi regime's wickedness in the Persian Gulf, a Kuwaiti vessel was hit by missiles launched by speedboats. The vessel suffered considerable damage.

Immediately after the incident, news agencies reported that the attack was launched by Iranian forces in retaliation for recent Iraqi attacks in the Persian Gulf. These reports heightened the possibility of a widescale confrontation and crisis in the Persian Gulf. As a result, the number of ships sailing in the region has undergone a rather impressive change.

At any rate, the combined presence of foreign fleets and Iraq's extensive and continued hooliganism have created the possibility of a conflagration in the region and the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, as well as an unprecedented escalation of a confrontation in the region. World political and economic circles consider this as a real possibility. The real issue, however, goes back to the Reagan administration's thinking that it can create a suitable climate to speed up the decisionmaking process by the Security Council regarding its second set of measures vis-a-vis the Iran-Iraq war, considering the forces the United States has managed to deploy in the region during the 35-day [as heard] period during which Iraq halted its wickedness in the Persian Gulf. The U.S. Administration believes that by giving the Iraqi regime a free hand in launching ceaseless attacks and by creating tension and clashes, it can also pressure the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Of particular interest is the demand by U.S. authorities, following their recent statements and their emphasis on the need to establish a comprehensive truce and to include in the Security Council resolution certain sanctions in order to apply pressure to the Islamic Republic of Iran. These are precisely the remarks made by the British Government, the Jordanian regime, and the Saddam regime.

Reagan's official spokesmen, however, have tried to give some sort of enigmatic and spurious aura to the present harmony between Washington and Baghdad by criticizing the timing of Iraq's new attacks and by expressing their regrets over the increased possibility of a confrontation in the Persian Gulf. Having caused general apprehension, they now intend to present themselves to the world as a neutral and peace-loving party.

These events are taking place in light of the fact that if Washington were not inclined toward the resumption of Iraq's attacks in the Persian Gulf — at a time when the United States and its allies have directly involved themselves in the region in order to protect Iraqi supporters and to pressure the Islamic Republic — Iraqi hooliganism could not started again, as it had not for 45 days. According to news reports available, the time Iran took to respond to the Security Council's resolution was not all that long. Ordinarily, any plots related to the Security Council could have been more actively pursued following Iran's official response.

Furthermore, considering the 7-year-old war, it does not seem that this particular timing could have played a significant role so far as the Iraqi regime is concerned. Having said that, all these reasons and evidence point to the fact that the continuation of the already mentioned wickedness, as also admitted by U.S. officials, is quite understandable by Washington. This plot is the outcome of a joint measure carried out in total coordination between Baghdad and Washington.

However, the Islamic Republic of Iran, relying on God, the destroyer of oppressors, and through the cohesion and unity of the Islamic ummah, is ready to stand firmly against this joint plot hatched by Baghdad and Washington. Through this resistance and steadfastness, it teaches the forces of arrogance new lessons. There is no doubt that should this happen. The dimensions and extent of this Islamic resistance will not be confined to the Persian Gulf and Iran; rather, it will engulf the entire Islamic world. The true aim of all these conspiracies is nothing more than to crush the abode of Islamic resistance and to prevent the expansion of the might and power of Islam.

Khamene'i, Oil Minister Discuss OPEC Prices

LD011636 Tehran IRNA in English 1607 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 1, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i today expressed hope that the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) would restore stability to oil prices by pursuing a coordinated policy.

In a meeting with Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh here the president stressed on controlling the production output and said if OPEC member states refrain from violating the organisation's resolutions, prices would stabilize.

In the meeting Aqazadeh also briefed President Khamene'i on Iran's oil cooperation with African countries, situation of the oil market and OPEC measures in this regard.

Khamene'i Greets Al-Qadhdhafi on Revolution Day

LD020827 Tehran IRNA in English 0709 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 2, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i sent a message of congratulation to the Libyan leader, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to mark the anniversary of the Libyan revolution day.

Iraq Reportedly Bans 'Ashura Mourning Ceremonies

LD011637 Tehran IRNA in English 1545 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Sept. 1, IRNA — Iraqi security agents accompanied by those from Jordan and Egypt equipped with anti-riot gear have taken up positions around the shrine of Imam Husayn (A.S.) in Karbala', to prevent the people from mourning ceremonies on 'Ashura (the day Imam Husayn, A.S. was martyred).

Announcing the above here today an Iraqi soldier who sought asylum in the Islamic Republic Monday said that Karbala' is under tight siege and no one is allowed to enter the shrine of the prophets' (SAW) grandson.

Iraqi Interior Ministry had recently banned mourning ceremonies in Karbala', said the soldier noting that Iraqi radio and television broadcast music as usual during the mourning month of Moharram (started 26 August) despite severe opposition from the majority of its population.

Kuwaiti Hizballah Protest Ships Carrying U.S. Flags

LD012000 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, the Kuwaiti hizballah issued a statement condemning the plots of the United States and the rulers of Hijaz [Saudi Arabia] and Kuwait. The statement says: We Kuwaiti Muslims will not longer tolerate the disgrace of the hoisting of U.S. flags on our ships. In the near future we will dispel this degradation and disgrace from Kuwait.

Ground Forces Commander on Increasing Retaliation

LD011545 Tehran IRNA in English 1536 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Kerman, Sept. 1, IRNA — Iran's latest retaliation against Iraqi acts of mischief in bombing industrial and oil installations, was merely a warning to the enemy of a much severer response that awaits it in the future, said ground forces commander Brigadier General Hoseyn Hasani-Sa'di here Tuesday.

Commenting on tension created by the global arrogance in the Persian Gulf, Brigadier General Hasani-Sa'di said that whenever the superpowers felt that the Iraqi regime was in a shaky position they embarked on such plots.

Recent activities of Iraqi troops in the southern and western fronts which followed the superpowers tension in the Persian Gulf were completely suppressed, he said.

The ground forces commander asserted that replacement of some Iraqi commanders in the western fronts indicates heavy casualties and set-backs suffered by the Ba'thist troops.

Combat Operations in War With Iraq Continue

Communique No 2,946

LD011626 Tehran IRNA in English 1602 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 1, IRNA — Some civilians were martyred and wounded when Iraqi warplanes bombed civilian areas including industrial units in Esfahan and Khuzestan Provinces in central and southern Iran, Tuesday morning, said a military communique released here today.

The 2946th Joint Staff communique said that Iranian jet fighters heavily bombed Iraqi military centers around the city of Al-'Amarah, southeastern Iraq, at 09:10 GMT today, inflicting substantial casualties and losses on the enemy and returning safely to bases.

Two Iraqi warplanes were shot down by anti-aircraft fire and surface-to-air missiles of Iranian Muslim combatants in Bushehr and Ahvaz regions at 07:06 and 08:30 GMT tuesday. There is yet no report of the fate of the planes' pilots.

In the southern fronts, 10 Iraqi sodliers were killed and five enemy observation posts were destroyed by Iranian artillery fire Monday. Movement of enemy tanks were also suppressed in Helaleh.

Iran's Muslim combatants reconnoitered and shelled Iraqi positions in the northwestern and western fronts yesterday, killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers and destroying several gun emplacements of theirs.

The artillery fire of Iranian forces destroyed two heavy Iraqi engineering vehicles in Al-Basrah operational theater and prevented enemy troops from digging trenches or fortifying their positions in Sharhani, Bejliyeh, Faqqeh and Chazabeh yesterday.

Meanwhile, Iran's Navy gunboats intercepted and inspected eight cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Monday but allowed them to continue voyage after being satisfied they were not carrying goods for Iraq, the communique concluded.

Army, IRGC Shell Industrial Centers

LD011627 Tehran IRNA in English 1615 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Sept. 1, IRNA — The artillery fire of the Army and the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) heavily shelled enemy economic, industrial and oil installations in Al-Basrah Province, southern Iraq, Tuesday in retaliation for the Ba'thist regime bombing of Iranian industrial centers.

The Iraqi Navy's oil reservoirs and tactical headquarters of the 7th Naval Division on the outskirts of Umm Qasr port, a traverse [as received] factory and port facilities of Al-Basrah, Al-Zubayr

oil installations and logistical headquarters of the 3rd and 7th Corps sustained heavy losses in Iran's reprisal shelling.

IRGC Shells Economic Targets

LD021104 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] The General Headquarters of the three forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps have issued a communique announcing that in retaliation for the recent atrocities of the Ba'thist-Zionist regime ruling in Baghdad, the industrial and economic centers of Al-Basrah, Al-'Amarah, Al-Zubayr, and Qal'at Dizah are still under the intense artillery fire of the Ground Forces of the Guards Corps.

During the past 24 hours the heavy and intense fire of the fighters of Islam has inflicted heavy losses and damage on the airport, railway station, and garrison of Shu'aybah, the radio and television stations of Shu'abyah and Al-Basrah, the factory complex of Al-Basrah, and the industrial centers and factories in the suburbs of Al-'Amarah. The heavy coastal artillery fire of the Navy of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps also pounded the port, jetty, and economic installations of Umm Qasr, inflicting heavy blows and damage on these centers.

Centers Near Al-Sulaymaniyah Hit

LD021126 Tehran IRNA in English 1107 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 2, IRNA — Industrial centers west of Iraq's Al-Sulaymaniyah were heavily bombed by Iranian jet fighters at 11:00 hours local time (07:30 hours GMT) Wednesday in retaliation for Tuesday attacks of Iraq on Iranian civilian centers.

The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces reported that all Iranian fighter bombers returned to their bases safely.

Civilians 'Martyred' in Arak

LD021438 Tehran IRNA in English 1425 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 2, IRNA — A number of civilians were martyred and several others wounded when Iraqi warplanes bombed some locations of the city of Arak, (Central Prov.) including two industrial units today.

The said units sustained damage in the Iraqi air raid.

2 Iraqi Planes Shot Down

LD021452 Tehran IRNA in English 1442 GMT 2 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 2, IRNA — Two Iraqi warplanes were shot down by anti-aircraft fire of the Iranian forces at 9:57 and 10:18 hours GMT today in Central and Khuzestan Provinces respectively.

No report was immediately available on the fate of the pilots of the downed aircraft.

More on Yaqub Khan Speech on Nonproliferation

BK011638 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has reaffirmed Pakistan's stand that a nuclear arms race in South Asia can be checked only through a regional agreement on nuclear nonproliferation. He was addressing the inaugural session of a 2-day International Conference on Nuclear Nonproliferation in South Asia which began in Islamabad today. The conference was organized by the Pakistan Institute of Strategic Studies.

The foreign minister said that almost all the regional countries of South Asia have already announced they will not acquire nor will they themselves manufacture nuclear weapons. Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and the Maldives have already signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

Pakistan has expressed its readiness to accept global, regional, or bilateral safeguards to check nuclear proliferation provided they are also applicable to India. India has also announced that it has no desire to manufacture nuclear weapons or [allow] deployment of such weapons in its territory. A way out should be sought to give a legal status to the policies openly pronounced by the South Asian countries, the foreign minister said.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said that acquisition of a nuclear capability by one country will hamper the process of nuclear nonproliferation in the region in general. Moreover, this may lead to a chain reaction which may eventually lead to either an intentional or accidental use of nuclear weapons. He said that the logic that one country should acquire nuclear capability and others should be deprived of it is simply senseless. The policy of checking nuclear proliferation by adopting a double standard cannot be supported. Such a perception will only enable the nuclear monopoly to make the status in South Asia permament.

The foreign minister recalled that Pakistan, in response to the appeal by the UN secretary general, already expressed its views on a regional agreement on nuclear nonproliferation. Under such an agreement, the South Asian countries would pledge that they will use the nuclear materials and facilities in their possession solely for peaceful purposes. All the countries should also make a commitment that they will not produce themselves nor acquire nuclear weapons or an atomic bomb, nor will they deploy them on their territories. Nuclear tests should be totally banned under the agreement. He said that if the Indian leadership feels that the Nuclear Nonpoliferation Agreement should be included in a broader pact of nonaggression against each other, then we are also ready to consider it. Because the text of the pact is to be finalized, we believe that the formal approval of the bilateral agreement between India and Pakistan on not attacking each other's nuclear installations will help promote and stabilize mutual trust. He said that if India wants us to believe in its unilateral proclamations of its peaceful desires, then it should also believe in our proclamations. If India wants to inspect our installations then it should also be ready to be inspected.

The foreign minister recalled that after the Indian nuclear explosion in May 1974, the champions of nuclear nonproliferation, including the two superpowers, seemed inclined to accept the nuclear monopoly in South Asia. Restrictions were imposed on peaceful nuclear cooperation and Pakistan was hard hit as a result of these steps. However, these policies had no effect on Israel's and India's nuclear activities. The fact is that these policies were formulated for their activities. Pakistan continued its peaceful nuclear program on its own. Our national successes in the peaceful use of nuclear technology is a matter of pride for our country.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said that the five nuclear-weapon states can ask other countries not to acquire nuclear weapons only when they themselves are sincerely ready to destroy their own nuclear weapons. Pakistan has always said that the process of nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation be started simultaneously.

The conference is being attended by scientists and experts from Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, India, the United States, France, the PRC, Switzerland, the FRG, and Pakistan.

Minister Views New Law Against Arms Smuggling

BK011143 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] A new law is being enacted for confiscation of property and awarding life term to those involved in smuggling and trafficking of illegal arms and ammunition. This was stated by the federal interior minister, Malik Nasim Ahmad Ahir, while talking to newsmen in Islamabad today. He said the government has proposed a deadline to be given to the people to deposit their unlawful arms. This suggestion will be submitted to the Cabinet for the final decision.

The interior minister said that the government has at present imposed a complete ban on the issuance of licenses for arms and ammunition. Stringent measures are also underway to curb lawlessness in the country.

NAWA-E WAQT Urges Distance From U.S. Gulf Moves

BK291529 Karachi NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu
23 Aug 87 p 3

[Editorial: "The New U.S. Force in the Gulf: Repercussions and Implications"]

[Text] The U.S. Defense Department has announced the formation of a new Joint Task Force for the Middle East under the command of Rear Admiral Dennis Brooks, whose duty will be to protect vessels flying the U.S. flag in this region. With the establishment of this new force after CENTCOM, the U.S. presence in this region has assumed a permanent feature. This step, which has apparently been taken on the pretext of keeping open the oil supply line and safeguarding U.S. military and economic interests, has resulted in the further aggravation of the already tense situation prevailing in the region. Apprehensions about the broader implications of this conflict leading ultimately to a superpower confrontation and mutual rivalry now seem to be becoming a reality. The United States is gradually narrowing its circle around Iran, forcing Tehran into war as a result of Washington's "gunboat diplomacy" designed to punish Iran for

bringing about an "Islamic Revolution." In the middle of this century, Britain and France provoked President Nasser into war in the same manner. However, at that time, the then U.S. President Eisenhower refused to support the British and French aggression because the United States had put on the cloak of peace after the destruction of World War II. President Eisenhower also demonstrated wisdom and sagacity toward the situation that prevailed at that time. President Reagan, however, is not in a position, for various reasons, to leave a legacy of peace for the world during the final years of his second term.

America has learned a great lesson from its mistakes in Vietnam. Last week, 100 Congressmen announced that they would try to get an injunction against expanding the U.S. forces in the Gulf. After the apparent defeat in Vietnam, the U.S. Congress made it constitutionally binding on the President not to commit U.S. forces without the permission of Congress to an area where tension prevailed and where there was a danger of the United States itself becoming involved in the war. Notwithstanding this constitutional power, Congressmen have not been able to take any action with regard to the Gulf. As a result President Reagan is becoming responsible for fanning the flames of war in the Gulf region by exceeding the limits of his powers. A command called CENTCOM already existed in this region, and the formation of the Joint Task Force has brought tension to its highest point.

Given this situation, the Iranian Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani now says that Iran does not want war with the United States, but that a war is being imposed upon it. This will bring dangerous consequences as Iran reserves the right to safeguard its national security at all costs.

It is ironical that only the other day, the UN Security Council gave a mandate to the UN secretary general to hold negotiations with Iran and Iraq on implementing a cease-fire resolution. What was needed at this juncture was for the United States and other powers to try to help make the UN secretary general's mission to establish peace in the region a success, instead of escalating tension and provoking Iran. It is no less ironical that the United States and other countries are amassing wealth by selling arms — directly or indirectly — at huge profits to both Iran and Iraq so that they can prolong and expand the range of destruction of the Gulf war. In the United States itself, a scandal bigger than Watergate has become public and senior officials in the U.S. Administration are being exposed as a result of investigations into the secret Iran arms deal scandal. Moreover, its fallout has also hurt President Reagan. However, the intransigence has reached such a point that now efforts are being made to harass Iran. A psychological war against Tehran has already begun.

Indeed, the darkening clouds of danger in the Gulf may also engulf the neighboring countries and the implications of this conflict for Pakistan need no explanation. The U.S. CENTCOM chief, General Crist, has visited Pakistan several times. This has created various doubts and suspicions in the minds of the people. Only 2 days ago, the defense secretary himself admitted that the United States had been pressuring Pakistan to take a stand against Iran, and as retaliation for Pakistan's refusal to do so, a recommendation for a temporary suspension of the U.S. aid has been made on the pretext of the Arshad Pervez case. The $4.2 billion U.S. aid package seems to be extremely attractive, but in view of the rapidly rising storm and the flames of war in the Gulf, wisdom dictates that Pakistan must not bow to U.S. pressure and must not involve itself in the dangers of the Gulf.

Commentator Notes Advances in Space Science

BK010918 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 31 Aug 87

[U. Ziauddin Commentary]

[Text] The chairman of the Space and Upper Atmospheric Research Commission, [SUPARCO] Mr Salim Mehmud, has spoken of the strides his organization has been making over the past 8 years or so. He is obviously referring to the success the SUPARCO has achieved in recent years in space and upper atmospheric research. This is the highly developed science of modern times and it is heartening to note that Pakistan has not lagged behind even in this vital field. Pakistan launched its first rocket in 1962 and continued with this modest program until 5 years later. Then we went into hibernation for the next 12 years when again the importance of space science was realized.

As the first step, the status of the organization doing research in this important field was elevated and the SUPARCO concerted into a commission. Since then, some serious efforts have been made to achieve major strides in this vital science. Pakistan's first experimental satellite is now expected to go into orbit in the first quarter of next year. It has been fabricated indigenously and will be completed within the next 4 months. The satellite will orbit the earth at an altitude of 500 kms and will have a life of about 2 years. It will provide information about hydrology, agriculture, mineral resources, and a number of other fields. Besides this, credit goes to our space scientists and technicians for some other tangible achievements including those relating to remote sensing. All these can favorably be compared with some of the developed nations.

A scientific organization such as the SUPARCO is supposed to do research which is time consuming and capital intensive. Nobody expects it to perform its job within a short time. The achievements of the SUPARCO underlined by its chairman are indeed praiseworthy and every Pakistani should be proud of them. This becomes all the more glaring and (?visible) in view of the fact that we are short of resources. Still, it is a matter of great satisfaction that our scientific manpower is second to none as far as its achievements are concerned in the face of (?resource) contraints. With its eagerness to perform miracles in this vital field, it should not be difficult for our scientific manpower to achieve laurels in space science as early as the resources permit.

Pakistan is on the threshold of greater achievement in space science with the commissioning of the Islamabad satellite ground station before the end of this year and it will receive data from satellites for use in the survey of natural resources and environmental studies. Thus the [words indistinct] started quarter of a century ago will take the nation onward to its destination to put space science at still greater service of the nation. This we have achieved through our own resources and indigenous material.

Agreement on Tamil Refugees Signed With UNHCR

AU011453 Paris AFP in English 1424 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Text] Geneva, Sept 1 (AFP) — Sri Lanka has signed an agreement with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) easing the repatriation of Tamil refugees, an HCR spokesman said here Tuesday.

The accord signed Monday by a UNHCR representative and the Sri Lankan rehabilitation minister earmarks two million dollars to help some 150,000 Tamils return to the Indian Ocean island from India and other western countries.

The money will be spent on transportation and facilities enabling the Tamils to re-setttle in the north of Sri Lanka.

A UNHCR team will travel to Colombo next week to finalise details of the scheme.

Army Chief Ranatunge Hails Agreement With India

BK290807 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT29 Aug 87

[Text] The Sri Lankan Army chief, General Ranatunge, says the Indo-Sri Lankan agreement has brought peace to the Northern and Eastern Provinces of the country and every effort will be made to preserve it.

In an interview with the AIR [All India Radio] correspondent Sebastian Roberts at Palaly airport near Jaffna, he said steps will be taken to give the feeling of security and confidence to the Tamils and other communities. He said Army camps set up after 26 May and weapons given to home guards have been withdrawn. The general said an agreement of this kind cannot be implemented overnight and appealed to the people to help implement it effectively.

JVP Senior Member's Arrest 'Major Breakthrough'

BK291100 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 1044 GMT 29 Aug 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Aug 29 (*Lanka Puwath*) — The police this week gained a major breakthrough in investigations into the subversive activities of the proscribed political party, Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP) when they arrested one of its senior members who was allegedly a mastermind in the JVP raid on the Sri Lanka Air Force base at Katunayake last June.

Police gave the name of the suspect, arrested late on Wednesday night at Peliyagoda, a suburb north of Colombo, as Konganige Douglas Anthony (45) of Ragama, 10 miles north of the city. Police said the suspect was carrying vital documents. He had also given details of a JVP firearms training camp in the dense Sinharaja forest in the deep south.

Seven motor vehicles were also recovered following a statement allegedly made by him.

Police believe there was a deep JVP involvement in the August 18 grenade attack in parliament.

Ajith Kumara, a parliament employee, alleged to be a JVP member, is wanted by the police in connection with the attack. He has been reported missing since.

17 JVP Members Arrested in Police Ambush

BK311530 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 1500 GMT 31 Aug 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Aug 31 (*Lanka Puwath*) — The police in the mid-country agricultural town of Rambukkana yesterday arrested a gang of 17 armed members of the proscribed Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna [JVP], as they were about to stage a series of armed robberies in the Rambukkana and Mawanella areas.

Police told *Lanka Puwath* that the subversives were on their way to the first of a series of planned robberies for cash and arms when they ran into a police ambush.

The 17 who have been detained by Rambukkana police were carrying revolvers and explosives at the time they were apprehended.

Police said a special team of Criminal Investigation Department (CID) detectives had been sent from Colombo to help the local police in their investigations.